12th July, 1980 Tony Woodcock's speed takes him past Olmo in England's last European Championship match against Spain. **Champions**

Australia — 50c; New Zealand — 50c; Malaysia — \$1.50; Italy — L.1,000; Denmark — Kr.7.50; Canada — 60c.

4

WHICHEVER football shirt Liam Brady chooses to wear next season he should feel a deep sense of gratitude to Arsenal for the opportunities they gave him in his formative years and in their more

recent trophy winning exploits.

Brady was a nobody when he crossed the Irish Sea to join Arsenal in 1971. Since then the richly gifted Irishman has become one of the

Irishman has become one of the world's best players.

Arsenal gave him the platform — and Brady grasped the opportunity to carve himself a glittering career.

To believe Brady is not grateful to Arsenal is to underestimate the softly spoken, shy Irishman. His book "So Far, So Good" amply demonstrates his respect for the managerial and administrative personnel at Highbury even though he does criticise Terry Neill's management. Neill's management.

Sadly though, his public "I want away" pronouncements have suggested a disenchantment with Arsenal, despite his stated determination to broaden his playing

experience with another club.

The average fan says: "Can't he do that at Arsenal, one of the best club's in the world?" When you have sung a million choruses of "There's only one Liam Brady" and shared the team's triumphs and defeats it is hard not to feel a deep sense of loss when the subject of your terrace worship says

he is leaving. If only Brady had taken a leaf from Kevin Keegan's book on how to win friends. Keegan's perambulations around Europe have won fans not lost them. The Kop wished him well when he left Liverpool because Keegan had said all the right things and given them no cause to believe he was

disloyal.
Similarly, he leaves Hamburg with almost as many friends in West Germany as he has in Britain.

Sadly, Brady has never demonstrated publicly the same affection for his employer's even though his book reveals his loyalty. Few can afford the publisher's price of

Smiling at the cameras, waving to the crowd, signing autographs, and praising your club to the hilt costs

It is not surprising that the demands for Brady's talents on the Continent have cooled.

Although it would be unfair to pin all Arsenal's disappointments of last season on Brady's shoulders, it is clear that the team rely heavily upon

When Brady is not functioning, Arsenal suffer.

If any player had an excuse for leading a cloistered, private life away from his adoring public it was Pele. He above all players, owed no favours.

Instead, he chose a more dignified approach, never forgetting a humble childhood, ever mindful of the

opportunities he had been given.
There is a salutory lesson in the
Pele approach. Any player who
believes his only responsibility to the
game is to kick a football is misguided.

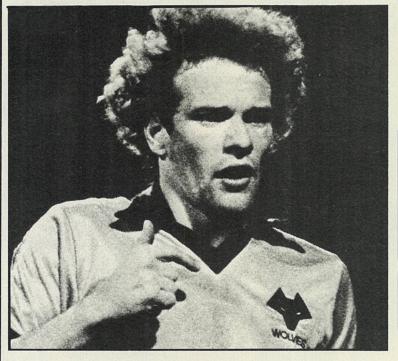
Brady's departure would be more bearable for the North Bank if those Irish eyes had smiled more often.

EASON 1979-80 will go down as the Sone in which transfers went completely insane.

For a decade or so now people have moaned about ludicrous transfer fees, but the rest of the 70's were poverty-stricken compared with this past season.

SHOOT has been running a check on the form of the men who cost most during a season in which £28,412,777 changed hands before the transfer deadline. We assess the impact the £300,000 - plus men made on their new clubs — and ask 'Was the money well spent?'

ransfer



ANDY GRAY (Aston Villa-Wolves) £1,469,000

The swashbuckling Scot grabbed the gift that came his way in the Football League Cup Final and that must have been worth a bob or two. Gray (above), in partnership with John Richards, helped Wolves back into Europe, brought fans flocking back to Molineux, and regained his place for Scotland

STEVE DALEY (Wolves-Man City) £1.450.277

John Barnwell couldn't have bought Gray without the money he got for Daley — and there can be no doubt he has got the best of the bargain so far. Malcolm Allison resorted to criticising his million-pound midfielder in an effort to inspire a player who appears to have lost self-belief.

KEVIN REEVES (Norwich-Man City) £1,250,000

It would be unfair to player, club, manager or anyone involved in the deal to give judgment after so few games. All we can say is that Kevin started nervously - not helped by stepping into a morale-sapped side — but finished the season strongly.

RAY WILKINS (Chelsea-Man Utd)

£825,000

Without getting the red hoards on the Old Trafford terracing singing his name, Ray has made a good start, and it is significant that United have had their best season for years without convincing everyone. Ray gives the impression of playing better for his country than his club, but he should do even better next term.

MIKE FLANAGAN (Charlton-Crystal Palace) £815,000

A disappointing start at Selhurst but once he starts hitting the target again, Mike (below) could have great influence on the Palace youngsters. He has battled well without luck — until that changes we have to say a miss.



JOHN GIDMAN (Aston Villa-Everton) £700.000

John still has the skill and style to play for England — remember he has one cap — but somehow his career seems to have been in storage for the last two or three years. The move from Villa was timely and now that Everton's First Division status is secure watch for a Gidman comback next season

ASA HARTFORD (Nottm Forest-Everton) £500,000

Asa's 'drop-in' at the City Ground was the biggest flop of all time, and sadly his brush with Brian Clough seems to have had a lingering effect on the Scot. After a scintillating spell with Manchester City, there was every reason to suppose Asa could turn on the charm anywhere but his sifts. charm anywhere, but his gifts appear to have been stifled at Goodison.

A

TONY WOODCOCK (Nottm Forest-Cologne) £650,000

Here is a player Brian Clough didn't want to lose. There is no doubt Forest have found goals harder to score, matches more difficult to win without the quicksilver Woodcock (below). He has apparently adapted well to the Bundesliga, enough to have already attracted offers from Spain.



TONY CURRIE (Leeds-QPR) £400,000

It's strange how a player like this with so much to offer can drift almost to anonymity. A year ago Tony was in the England squad on their summer tour after enjoying a magnificent season with Leeds. Back in the capital he has hardly made an impression at Loftus Road.

BRIAN GREENHOFF (Man Utd-Leeds) £400.000

Ex-England international moving on for personal reasons, plagued by illness and injury, restricting him to odd appearances, hardly any consecutively, and one wonders what the future holds.

RAY STEWART (Dundee Utd-West Ham) £400.000

Pound-for-pound the biggest hit so far. This resolute Scot was unheard of when he arrived at Upton Park, yet in eight months he has played a huge part in taking The Hammers to Wembley, and forced his way into Jock Stein's international thinking. The 'hard man' West Ham have needed in defence for years.

JOHN DEEHAN (Aston Villa-WBA) £400,000

Another disappointing excursion into big business for Ron Atkinson. Deehan has failed totally to live up to the form he showed alongside Andy Gray at Villa.

ALAN BILEY (Cambridge-Derby) £400,000

The afore-mentioned Ron Atkinson rates Biley among the best finishers in the business and with 21 goals to his name last season, it's hard to argue. The Rod Stewart look-alike is certainly a character, and the game needs men like him.

DAVE THOMAS (Everton-Wolves) £350,000

Another unhappy move. Wolves needed a provider for Andy Gray's willing head and the tricky Thomas seemed the perfect answer, but it just hasn't worked out. Thomas is available for transfer.

CLAUDIO MARANGONI (San Lorenzo-Sunderland) £320,000

A foreign player doesn't have to work quite so hard to win popularity for some strange reason, yet the public expect all imports to be world-beaters. Marangoni has done nothing to suggest he is in that category. Must be given more time.

IRVING NATTRASS (Newcastle-M'boro) £300,000

Another of the unhappy movers who has spent more time on the treatment table than the pitch. Nattrass is such a useful performer that Middlesbrough should eventually benefit from his skills, but for now it has to be . . . miss.



TERRY YORATH (Coventry-Spurs) £300,000

There is no denying the colossal impact Terry (above) has had on White Hart Lane. As a motivator of men there can be few better captains in the game.

GARRY STANLEY (Chelsea-Everton) £300,000

The man with the murderous shot didn't get his name on the scoresheet until the last week of the season, and it's been a frustrating start for him at Goodison.

DAVID GEDDIS (Ipswich-Aston Villa) £300,000

The blond striker who helped lpswich to their most famous day at Wembley in 1978 has rarely captured the limelight since, and not even his move to Ron Saunders' side seems to have changed David's (below) luck.



COLIN TODD (Everton-Birmingham) £300,000

A strange sort of year for the immaculate defender who once wore the England shirt with such distinction. He could have joined Southampton, and in some ways regrets he didn't, he's been sent-off twice, perhaps reflecting his mood, and he's lost his pace—but having said all that he's back in the First Division.

STEVE WICKS (Derby-QPR) £300,000

Has had his share of ups-and-downs with Chelsea, Derby and now Rangers, but to his credit he continues to look a solid performer.

DES BREMNER (Hibs-Aston Villa) £300,000

Ron Saunders knew he needed another worker with good skills to work the right hand side of the field, so he went to Scotland for Bremner. He has helped Villa get rid of the lop-sided look given them by the left-sided strength of Mortimer and Cowans.

BARRY POWELL (Coventry-Derby) £300.000

Powell has always done well for The Sky Blues. Sadly his first season at Derby has been punctuated by the disappointment of relegation, and his own form has been unexciting.

STAN CUMMINS (M'boro-Sunderland) £300.000

A successful signing, Stan has already scored more goals for Sunderland than he managed in fours years for Boro. He now has the chance to fulfil his potential.

NIKOLAI JOVANOVIC (Red Star-Man Utd) £300,000

Still an unknown quantity, and it's impossible to give a verdict on the Yugoslav (below) yet.



GARRY COLLIER (Coventry-Portland) £300,000

That line says it all! When you consider it was only in last year's summer sales that Garry opted for Coventry, his contract with Bristol City having run out, and that he played only a couple of times for Coventry, you will gauge what a bad move it turned out to be.

TONY GREALISH (Orient-Luton) £300,000

After all the haggling about the fee Luton won't regret a single penny of the money they spent on the inspiring Irishman. Grealish was one of the Republic's stars against England in the European Championship tie at Wembley, and he has spearheaded Luton's marginally unsuccessful bid for promotion.

CLIVE ALLEN — football's latest million quid kid — won't be weighed down by the size of that enormous fee when he makes his debut for his new club, Arsenal, at West Brom when the League season opens on August 16th.

The no-pop Gunners moved like a shot to fork out £1,250,000 for the 19-year-old Allen as soon as Queens Park Rangers announced they were prepared to let him go.

Allen — son of former Tottenham and Chelsea star Les — topped the country's scoring charts last season with 28 League

That's the sort of finishing power Arsenal were sadly short of last season. And after ending up without a goal, or trophy in two Cup Finals manager Terry Neill knew he had to do something about it.

He got a gift from heaven when Rangers put Allen on the transfer list — and Neill swooped to break the Arsenal transfer record by a

staggering £700,000.

"I did not hesitate to spend that sort of money. Arsenal want the best - and Clive is the best," declared Neill after tying-up the deal.

A price tag such as that is a tremendous burden for anyone to carry, but Clive Allen should overcome that handicap without any trouble.

He can thank his father, Les, a great confidente and adviser, for that strength of player.
Les has always been there when Clive has

needed him. He has guided, encouraged and advised — but never pushed his son.

"If I had any problems at all, anything I was uncertain about, I knew my Dad would help me sort them out. But the final decision has always been left to me," explains Clive.



Allen signs on the dotted line for Arsenal, watched by manager Terry Neill.

"When I went to Highbury to talk over the transfer Dad came with me. He sat in on the discussions and told me to make sure I was completely satisfied in my own mind with everything about the move.

"Then we went home so that I could think

about it for 24 hours.

I wanted that to make absolutely certain I was doing the right thing. But there was never really any doubt that I would go to Arsenal.

"When you complete a transfer you want the biggest and best club you can find. And they don't come much bigger and better than Arsenal — they are a great club, famous throughout the world."

"And my delight at the move is increased by the fact I can stay at home. When you have a stable background like I have that's very important.

The size of the fee won't bother me, for you can't relate to it. If somebody got a million quid in one pound notes and stacked them up in front of me it might be different.

"The pile would probably go so high it would frighten the life out of me. As it stands, though, it's only words and does not mean much. "What DOES mean a lot, though, is scoring some goals for Arsenal. I've always had

confidence in my ability to do it and now get the chance to prove it at the highest level

Terry Neill has shown tremendous confidence in me by moving in and asking me to do a specific job. I aim to repay him with the goals he is looking for.
"It's a tragedy that Arsenal are not in Europe

again after what they achieved last season. If I can help put that right without delay I'll be delighted."

Clive will not be a complete stranger when he reports to Highbury for his first day's training. He knows John Hollins, who joined The Gunners from Q.P.R. 12 months ago, and has a

lot of respect for him.

"I always got on well with John when we were at Rangers together and look forward to linking up with him again," says Clive. "And I found big Willie Young a really nice

guy when we met on a coaching course a short while ago.

"I know the rest of the lads well by reputation, of course, and I'm looking forward so much to playing alongside them." The Gunners' players will be more than glad to have him with them as well if he brings his

lethal marksmanship across London.

Clive Allen has listened well and worked hard to improve his game. It has now paid off with a

dream move to a glamour club.

We wish him well and can assure Gunners' fans their club have bought a real 100 per

He is not the type who sits back and waits for things to happen — or allows others to make it happen for him.

He goes out and does the business himself. And football needs all of that type it can get.

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JOHN WILE (WBA)

HAVING a daughter of school age makes it very difficult to arrange a definite holiday date. We went back up to the North East during Whitsun to visit all our relatives, and we will be going to Spain at some time, which will be a nice return for me because I went there with Albion immediately after our final League game of last season. This has been one of the longest summer breaks I can remember, and it has been a good opportunity to get in some extra golf. Albion report back for training on July 17, and I am looking forward to getting back in the old routine.

TOMMY CATON (Man City)

I MISSED the club's tour of America recently because I was playing for the England Youth team in the Little World Cup in East Germany. I was disappointed to miss the trip, but winning the tournament by beating Poland in the Final more than made up for that. I have just returned from a holiday in Spain, and I believe City are going for a pre-season tour of Portugal in August.

GORDON HILL (OPR)

HAVING just moved into a new house in Ascot I won't have time for a holiday this year. There is so much to do around the house, and most of my time has been spent building a new patio. Apart from that, I have spent most of my time going for walks in the surrounding countryside with my old English sheepdog.

JIMMY GREENHOFF (Manchester United)

AS most United fans will know, we have already been on a short tour of America, and now I am planning to take my wife and children to Malta for a holiday. It is a return visit for us to Sliema, a beautiful town where we have made lots of friends in our previous holidays there.

DAVID LANGAN (Derby County)

THE Republic of Ireland's game against Argentina gave me a great opportunity to visit all my relatives over in Dublin for a week with my wife Mandy. It was a terrific game which we just lost 1-0, but it showed what the team can do when it hits top form. Apart from that, I don't really have anything planned for a holiday this year. Most of my time has been spent messing around on the tennis courts. I don't think I'll ever make Wimbledon though — I'm useless!

TONY McANDREW (Middlesbrough)

I WON'T be going on holiday this year, because I am currently in the process of moving house. On the club front, we have just returned from a two-week tour of Japan, where we won the tournament Final by beating the Spanish club Espanol on penalties. Apart from that, I have been going in to

Ten stars reveal... 'HOW I'M SPENDING THE CLOSE SEASON'

the club two days a week getting in a bit of extra training, and I think it will stand me in good stead, because as soon as we report back to the club on July 17 we are off for our annual trip to Aberystwyth for training on the sand dunes.

MIKE FLANAGAN (Crystal Palace)

LIKE Gordon Hill, I too have just moved house and the upheaval has made it impossible for us to think of getting away for a holiday. It is a tremendous house, but the garden needs a bit of work, and at the moment I am digging up the lawn and returfing the whole thing. Hopefully it will be like Wembley when I've finished.

ARTHUR GRAHAM (Leeds)

THE club aren't going on tour this summer, so I have had a nice break from football for a change. I went with my wife Lorna and 7-year-old daughter Angela to Spain for a week, and we enjoyed ourselves



there. I had never been to Spain before. We will be spending three weeks back in Scotland visiting

our relatives, and I also hope to get

a few more rounds of golf in before

we report back to Elland Road on

July 16.

JOHN BOND (Norwich manager)

WE have just returned from a summer tour of China, and I think that is enough for me! It is an incredible place and the people over there made us all feel very welcome. I have just spent a couple of weeks in Italy watching the European Championship, and will be going to Florida with my wife Janet for two weeks. I don't know yet if anything is arranged for a preseason tour, but there is a possibility that we will go to either Yugoslavia or Nigeria.



BOBBY HOUSTON (Kilmarnock)

AS far as I am concerned, there is no such thing as a close season. Although we are only part-timers at Kilmarnock, we seem to get absolutely no break nowadays between the end of one season and the start of another. This year we have been involved in a number of friendly games, and any day now we will soon be back for pre-season training. I will count myself lucky if I manage to fit in a couple of weeks on the coast with my wife and two daughters this year.





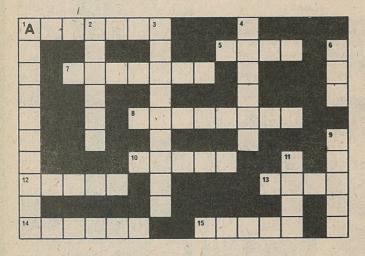
PUZZLETIME OU NAME IT

Unscramble the letters of these anagrams to identify the nicknames of ten English League teams, and then name the sides to which they belong. As an aid, the first is filled in for you.

STEEL STEEL STEEL			
No	ANAGRAM	NICKNAME	CLUB
1	REDS LADS	SADDLERS	WALSALL
2	GRIM LIPS		The second
3	RANG ICES		· 以 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
4	ZINC SITE		
5	LAST VAIN		
6	SET PAIR		
7	RIM SPED	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	September 1997
8	DRIES BULB		
9	RIDS NOISE	101	444
10	ASKS HER		

FITTING TASK

Replace these 16 English or Scottish clubs into the frame: ALBION, ALLOA, ARSENAL, ASTON VILLA, AYR, BOLTON, BURY, DERBY, EXETER, HEREFORD, HULL, LEEDS, LEICES-TER, READING, STOKE and YORK. You are given a one-letter start.



NAME THE TEAM

My first is in matches, My second in score, My third is in soccer, My fourth is in more. My fifth is in winner, My sixth is in dream. My last is in football, So now name the team.

Answers on page 42

'We let ourselves - and Freenwood That's my personal verdict on England's failure to reach the Final

of the European Championship in

Some of the criticism heaped on manager Ron Greenwood and the players by sections of the media was grossly unfair. It seemed almost as though we were regarded as one of the worst teams in Europe, instead of being amongst the top eight.

All our efforts in qualifying for the

Continent's major international tournament were forgotten.

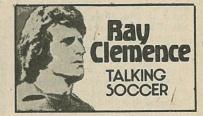
Certainly we failed to live up to expectations in Italy. We were all bitterly disappointed at not producing the form we know we're capable of. Not only we did we let ourselves down, but Ron Greenwood, too.

The boss, in his three year spell at the helm, has transformed England into a team that believes in itself. Everyone is proud to be a part of it. Team spirit is comparable to that at Liverpool — and I can't give it higher praise than that!

The one thing that worried us was that Ron Greenwood would resign or be fired! That would rank as a

disaster.

Only in flashes did England shine in Italy. For most of the three games we were struggling, striving to strike the cohesion that opens up defences. One lesson we have learnt is that goal-chances at this



level are rare, and our players must be sharper in capitalising on them.

The marking was tremendously tight Kevin Keegan and Tony Woodcock in particular were marked men, and took a lot of stick!

We were also out of luck - that vital ingredient needed to win Cups!

In our opening match, against Belgium, we gave away an equaliser when normally the ball would have been cleared to safety. Their Ceule-mans was presented with a lucky rebound.

Immediately afterwards occurred an incident which resulted in my most nightmarish memory in ten years of football with Liverpool and England.

A section of the English fans disgraced our country by attacking Italians goading them over Belgium's goal, and riot police had to





quell them by firing tear gas shells on to the terraces.

Some of those shells were tossed back at the police, and the gas was blown on to our end of the pitch. Both Kenny Sansom and I were affected by the fumes. My eyes were streaming and I could hardly see.

The referee stopped the game so that I could be attended to by our physio, Fred Street, who bathed my eyes with water. After the interruption the lads found it difficult to regain their rhythm, partly because the Belgians cynically opted to employ the offside trap to hold on to their point.

I believe the ref blew up for over twenty offsides!

The whole tournament was marred by "gamesmanship": time-wasting, professional fouls, and the like.

'I guessed right at Dani's re-taken penalty' Apart from the stoppage caused by the hooligan element amongst our fans — how we despise them — we had a good-looking goal from Tony Woodcock disallowed because Kevin was ruled to be offside at the time. A marginal decision which will be argued about for a long time.

When Italy drew with Spain that evening, in probably the most exciting game of the tournament, we all breathed again. For it meant all four teams remained on a level basis.

Italy, the hosts, were our next opponents. This was the match we were all keyed-up for. Beat them and we reckoned we were virtually through to the Final.

Of course, I was disappointed to lose my place in goal to Peter Shilton, but I have a great respect for his ability and would never claim to be his superior.

The general opinion amongst the team was that one goal would settle the issue, and unfortunately it was scored by the Italians. Graziani broke through on the left wing, after riding Phil Neal's tackle,

'Kevin took a lot of stick'

crossed the ball, and there was Tardelli to ram the ball home from point-blank range, giving Peter no chance.

At the inquest afterwards, Phil was blamed for the goal. But everyone makes mistakes during a game. Often it's just bad luck when one results in a goal.

It looked certain then that Italy were booked for the Final, as they were favourites to beat Belgium in their last match.

The Belgians surprised everyone — perhaps even themselves — by holding the Italians to a goalless draw and winning a place in the Final.

We had hoped to appear in the third-place play-off on the Saturday night, but we only managed to overcome Spain by two-one. And in that match Lady Luck again turned her back on us.

I came out to save at the feet of

Santillana, and even though I went for the ball the referee ruled that I had fouled the player. Despite my protests, the Spaniards were awarded a penalty, which Dani placed perfectly to my left.

Shortly afterwards, Dave Watson committed an undeniable foul and again I found myself facing the deadly Dani. And again he drove the ball past me, but the ref disallowed the goal because Dani had been guilty of trying to trick me in his run-up.

I guessed right at the retake, denying the Spaniards the goal that would have put them in the lead. On the hour Tony Woodcock scored our match-winner.

We'd needed to win by two clear goals at least to go through to the third place game. And it was galling that Italy did so by scoring only one goal in three games, compared to our three!

If only that Tony Woodcock goal in the first game had stood we'd have been Finalists.

It was a disappointing tournament for us, and also for the millions of fans watching on TV throughout Europe. Goals were scarce, and games so staccato through persistent fouling, it gave poor entertainment value.

Fortunately the Final, between the West Germans and Belgians, had many thrilling moments — mainly because by scoring early on the Germans forced the Belgians to abandon their normal "spoiling" game and go on the attack. They equalised with a disputed penalty but the Germans rightly triumphed with a tremendous, lightning-flash headed goal in the 89th minute!

Knockout

Teams generally were overcautious, frightened to take risks. Somehow this must be overcome next time, but I'm unconvinced that the solution is for the "League" system to be replaced by reverting to the knockout system.

I agree with Ron Greenwood when he says: "It would be terribly hard on any country to come all this way through the qualifying rounds and then get knocked out in the first match."

Perhaps a solution is to give teams a bonus point for scoring more than three goals.

Now England must shake off the disappointment of Italy. It's important we keep our nerve and confidence in order to qualify for the World Cup Finals in 1982.

No doubt a few of the older players will be supplanted by younger ones, such as Glenn Hoddle and Kenny Sansom, but the one face certain to be around is that of Ron Greenwood.

There isn't a man more suited to lead England!

Lay Chemories

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NEW



1980 LEAGUE CUP FINAL

Thrills galore as Emlyn Hughes and his Wolves pack steal the 1980
League Cup Final and halt Notting-ham Forest's bid to set a record of three victories in a row.

1979 F.A. CUP FINAL Arsenal v. Man. Utd. 1979 LEAGUE CUP FINAL Nott'ham F. v Southampton 1978 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL Liverpool v. Bruges F.A. CUP FINAL 1978 F.A. CUP FINAL
Ipswich v. Arsenal
1978 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Nottingham Forest v. Liverpool
1978 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Nottingham F. v. Liverpool
1977 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL
Liverpool v. Borussia MGB
1977 BATTLE OF THE GIANTS
Manchester Utd v. Liverpool
1977 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Villa's Hat-trick.
1976 UEFA CUP
Liverpool v. Bruges Liverpool v. Bruges 1976 FA CUP FINAL Super Saints! 1976 LEAGUE CUP FINAL 1976 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Man. City v. Newcastle
1976 KINGS OF SCOTLAND
Rangers v. Hearts
1975 F.A. CUP FINAL
Hail To The Hammers!
1975 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Viva The Villa!
1974 F.A. CUP FINAL 1974 F.A. CUP FINAL Liverpool's Cup 1974 LEAGUE CUP FINAL Wonderful Wolves 1973 F.A. CUP FINAL Sunderland's Cup 1973 LEAGUE CUP FINAL Spurs v Nowich Spurs v. Norwich 1972 F.A. CUP FINAL

1972 F.A. CUP FINAL Leeds v. Arsenal 1972 LEAGUE CUP FINAL Salute to Stokel 1971 F.A. CUP FINAL Arsenal v. Liverpool 1971 EURO. CUP WINNERS Chelsea v. R. Madrid 1971 LEAGUE CUP FINAL Spursy Aston Villa

1971 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
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INTERNATIONALO	

INTERNATIONALS SPECIALS GIANTS OF BRAZIL.

SIX-GOAL BEST SCOTTISH CUP-FINALS . 200ft/400ft

1972 Celtic 6. Hibs 1 100ft "THIS is a dream come true," said Tommy Boyd, as he stood proudly on the Goldstone pitch, wearing the blue and white shirt of his favourite club, Brighton & Hove Albion. "The number of times I've stood on those terraces, wondering what it would be like to be out here. Well, now I know. It's a great feeling!"

Thanks to the hospitality of Alan Mullery and his team, SHOOT was able to give the Magpie TV star a super day with the South Coast

Seagulls.

His first call was at Alan Mullery's office, where he also met assistant-manager, Ken Craggs. After 'signing on' for The Seaguils, Tommy met the rest of the first team squad. Star defenders, John Gregory and Steve Foster, decided to check on Tommy's fitness with a workout in the gym and afterwards he was happy to enjoy a relaxing cup of tea with skipper, Brian Horton.

The thing I liked most was the happy atmosphere I found at the club," Tommy said, later. "I think a lot of that stems from Alan Mullery. He's a man with an open, friendly personality. He loves to laugh, but more than anything, he loves the game.

"I really enjoyed meeting him. He's always been a hero of mine. He was a great player. Do you remember the way he marked Pele out of the game in Mexico, in 1970? I defy anyone to name a player who could have done a better job on the day. Mullery was so versatile. He could do the lot. "Now it's great to see he's car-

"Now, it's great to see he's carried his two best qualities, that's skill at the job and a natural enthusiasm, into the world of management. I'm sure he loves



Dream signing

Magpie star joins

The Seagulls



every minute of what he's doing." Another Goldstone personality Tommy rates very highly is Brian

Horton.
"Brian's always had his critics and he has proved them wrong. I saw him make his debut for the club, when he was bought for peanuts from Port Vale. He impressed me right away. He's got all the qualities you look for in a captain.

When Brighton won promotion from the Third, some critics wondered how Brian would get on in the Second Division. Well, he was a driving force there and it was the same story last season. He's a fine player."

Tommy started supporting Brighton when he was just a toddler. During his student days, at Sussex University, he loved to spend his Saturday afternoons relaxing with The Seagulls.

'Promised'

"The funniest afternoon I've ever spent at the Goldstone was during our college Rag Week," he chuckled. "We did some collecting on the terraces for charity, before a match. My friend was singing and playing the guitar and I was going round with the tin. Most of the fans were happy to give us money. fans were happy to give us money ... as long as we promised to go away and annoy someone else!"

Like most of us, Tommy dreamed of becoming a professional footballer, when he was at school. "The closest I've come was a charity match last summer, when I was marking the great Bobby Charlton. I thought I was fit, but even when he was dribbling the ball, Bobby could leave me standing.

"So, I'll never make a top player. But SHOOT made one dream come true for me. I'll really feel at home the next time I go to the Gold-stone. When I'm cheering the play-ers from the terraces, I'll be able to use their first names!

PIRMINGHAM'S Scottish midfield player Jimmy Calderwood is back in Britain after a four month loan to Dutch aces Sparta. And Calderwood made such an impact in Holland that there is a

chase to sign him.

Leading the pack for Calderwood are former European Champions Feyenoord. Sparta, too, are keen to get the Scot on a full-time basis. The only stumbling block to Feyenoord making a quick signing is the fact that they already have two non Dutch players on their books and the Dutch FA rule a maximum of two. Calderwood said: "I enjoyed my spell over there and would

obviously give serious consideration to any offer.'

His contract with Birmingham ends this summer and the newly promoted St Andrews side are willing to free him.

As well as the Dutch interest his former Birmingham team-mate, Alan Buckley, now player-manager at Walsall, is interested in Calderwood. Cambridge too, are keeping a close watch on the situation.

Calderwood has an open mind on the subject but he has been in the Midlands since signing for Birmingham straight from school

nine years ago.

"Right now my future is up in the air with nothing decided. The only thing that is certain is that I won't be staying at Birmingham. They have offered me a new contract but I don't see any future for myself there.

"The manager made that clear last season when I was dropped after the opening game of the season and then allowed to go on loan first to Cambridge and then to Sparta."

Trophy-wise, Linfield team-chief Roy Coyle is the most successful post-War Windsor Park supremo. Since taking charge of the Belfast Blues, in November, 1975, he has guided them to three Irish League and Ulster Cup triumphs, two Irish Cup wins, plus Gold Cup and County Antrim Shield successes — ten trophies in less than five years! trophies in less than five years!

ALAN Thompson, the Bradford City defender, who was the youngest ever player-manager when in charge at Stock-part in season 1977-78, is keen to keep

playing.
The 28-year-old Thompson made his
League debut as a Wednesday player
nearly ten years ago.

Hampden plan in jeopardy

CHAIRMAN of Rangers, Rae Simpson, has asked the Scottish Development Minster to think again about Government backing for the £18 million reconstruction of Hampden Park. In a statement handed to the Scottish MP Alex Fletcher, Mr Simpson asked the Government to delay their decision to contribute £8.5 million to the controversial Hampden project.

The Rangers chairman said: "We urge

troversial Hampden project.

The Rangers chairman said: "We urge you strongly to seek the opinions of all Scottish clubs before making a final decision. Our private discussions have led us to believe that a number of clubs now have a totally different attitude than they had some years ago."

Mr Simpson pointed out that Scotland's League clubs were facing greater financial problems than ever.

THERE are no Player of the Year awards in Eire, so the best the League of Ireland players can hope for is a place on the Soccer Writers' Team of the Year. This was the journalists selection. Blackmore (Dundalk); Nolan (Limerick Utd), Keely (Dundalk), Dunning (Dundalk), Gardner (Waterford), McCormack (Bohemians), Walsh (Limerick Utd), Flanagan (Dundalk), Minnock (Finn Harps), Campbell (Shamrock Rov), Jameson (St Patrick's Ath). Subs: Morris (Limerick Utd), Finucane (Waterford).

MARK Kendall is one of the most promising young goalkeepers in the game today yet he is still only Aston Villa's third choice.

yoooooooooooooo

Over the past few months he has helped Villa to win the F.A. Youth Cup and the Southern Junior Floodlit Cup. Later he played a big part in England's success in the little World

England's success in the little World Cup Final against Poland in East Germany.

He said: "It is a difficult situation — particularly for a goalkeeper.
"But I am going to work hard at my game and hope that I can eventually break through into the League side"

He faces stiff opposition from veteran 'keeper Jimmy Rimmer and Nigel Spink. eran keeper c......, Nigel Spink.



MIDFIELDER John Pugh made his League debut in April, 1966, and is still going strong.

going strong.

The Chester-born player stepped out for Sheffield Wednesday, and has seen plenty of League service since then.

He is 32 and with Scunthorpe, following service with Huddersfield, Chester and Barnsley after leaving Wednesday in 1972.

PETER Zelem and Terry Cooke, two youngsters who have turned professional with Chester this year, are full of praise for the help they have received from assistant-manager Cliff Sear.

assistant-manager Cliff Sear.
Sear, a long-service player
with Manchester City, is doing
great work at Sealand Road with
the youngsters.
Zelem, who is a centre-half, is
Manchester born and won
school honours with Olden

Town, while Cooke, a midfielder or forward, is a Welsh Youth international. Both lads are 18.

Hibs clearout

HIBS new manager, Willie Ormond, was the first Scottish manager to "clear the decks" following his side's relegation to the Scottish First Division when he gave free transfers to 12 players, including ex-Stoke City goalkeeper Mike McDonald, and young Colin Campbell. Former Hearts skipper Jim Brown, and Joe Ward who was valued at £80,000 in an exchange deal with Des Bremner now with Aston Villa, could also be leaving Easter Road on free transfers. Road on free transfers.

GIVENS GRABS

DON Givens has already made plans for his testimonial — Alberto Tarrantini got him Diego Maradona's jersey which he wore against Eire, and Givens will raffle this prized possession. But Don does not plan to give up playing yet and the date for his benefit game is pencilled in for after the 1982 World Cup Finals!

Former England manager Don Revie is the father of a budding pop-star. Revie's 20-year-old daughter Kim has made a record. The title is "It's Come Back

KNIGHTONS *A WINNER*

FORMER Middlesbrough forward Stan Cummins believes Sunderland fans have not seen the best of him yet. He is

have not seen the best of him yet. He is equally confident that the Ken Knighton-Frank Clark partnership will make an impact when the team starts the new season in the First Division.

"Knighton and Clark have been tremendous with their encouragement and advice. So has coach Peter Eustace. The Knighton-Clark partnership could prove one of the best in the business."

Muhren warns Liverpoo

PSWICH Town's popular Dutch international Arnold Muhren thinks the progressive Suffolk club have a good chance of taking the League title away from Liverpool next

Suffolk club have a good chance of taking the League title away from Liverpool next year.

After accepting manager Bobby Robson's offer of another two-year spell at Portman Road, the highly-skilled creative forward said: "I feel we have a very good chance of winning something next season, perhaps the League Championship.

"Liverpool are the best team at the moment but I think we are the second best and getting better all the time.

"We have a good mixture; plenty of young players and the experience provided by Mick Mills, Frans Thijssen and myself. Next season could be very exciting for Ipswich and I am looking forward to it."

Problems over the education of Arnold's four-year-old son Arjan Muhren have been resolved with the help of local teachers and the example of Frans Thijssen's five-year-old daughter Brifitte, who has coped very well with her first year of school in Ipswich.

Now Arnold, who at almost 29 believes his international career is over, plans a summer holiday in Spain before returning to Holland for the rest of the close season. Laier this month he will join the Ipswich squad for pre-season preparations that could see an onslaught on Leeds' 34-match unbeaten run and the League title.

Lutons legal wrangle

UTON have sacked assistant manager Ken Gutteridge after two-anda-half years.

Formerly chief coach to Alan Mullery at Brighton, Gutteridge said: "I have been sacked and offered a settlement. I have rejected it and am putting the case in the hands of my solicitors."

Luton boss David Pleat has been

offered a new three-year contract.
According to club chairman Denis
Mortimer the new contract is a reward to Pleat for his work in restoring Luton among the pace setters of the Second Division.

Mortimer said: "I think everyone knew we were taking a gamble when we asked David to take over from Harry Haslam.

We all knew he was a good coach but he was short of managerial experi-ence. But we wanted a track suit manager and we believed David could do a

"He had to work hard and make some very difficult decisions but he knew he had our backing. We are desperate to return to the First Division."



FOR once Kevin Keegan was not the star. This time England's captain was upstaged by his brother Michael, who wed 19 year-old Jill Keefe at Doncaster.

Soaraway Watson

The England and Southamp-ton centre-half modelled the latest airline stewardess fashions before getting down to the hard task of marshal-ling England's defence in the European Championship. Sadly, big Dave's smiles were to fade when he landed in Italy.

IT is never easy to play against old team-mates and friends.

So says England defender Mick Mills. After a difficult afternoon Mills. After a difficult afternoon marking former Ipswich winger Clive Woods, now with Norwich, he said: "Clive and I were good friends during his 11 years at Portman Road. I never find it easy to be as competitive as I should be in such circumstances." circumstances.

'It's the same with Brian Talbot, David Johnson and Bryan Hamilton and I know they have felt just the same. Maybe it's just as well we don't have a big turnover of staff at the club."

CHRISTIAN KEEPER

shot goalkeeper who has also seen service with Arsenal, Luton, Los Angeles Aztecs, Charlton, Southend, Portsmouth, Brentford and Kettering,

Portsmouth, Brentford and Kettering, has a more serious side to his nature. He says: "I became a committed Christian three years ago and I am interested in the Christians in Sport organisation in Britain."

The former England Youth international made his League debut in 1972, and during his spell at Luton helped them win promotion to the First Division.

Brine, a Londoner, is to coach in Tas-mania. Brine has played for Whitby Town in the Drybroughs Northern League since a

Ray Wood's homesick

FORMER England and Manchester United goalkeeper Ray Wood wants to return to English football.

He has less than three months of a two-

year contract to run with Emirates Sports Club in Abu Dhabi in the Persian Gulf.

But he fears that finding a job in England will be difficult.

'There are not too many vacancies in football," he said. "The money is good in the Gulf and the weather magnificent. But the job itself causes frustrations. The playare all amateurs and how do you discipline amateurs?

"Quite often they don't turn up for

Wood left England for America in 1968 to work for Los Angeles Wolves. He then went to Cyprus for two years as National Coach and spent a year as coach to a top Greek club Greek club.

A year in Kuwait followed and he was national coach in Kenya for four years before moving to Abu Dhabi.



DEAN'S PLEDGE

DEAN Edwards has pledged to prove two big clubs were misguided when the new season starts.

The Wolverhampton-born striker, who signed professional for Shrewsbury this year, had a trial with Aston Villa and two

years as a schoolboy at Wolves. His signing as a full-time professional with Shrewsbury followed a two-year stint



CANCER research benefited by £1,500 as a result of this trio's decision to appear in a charity match at Aldershot. Left to right: Jimmy Greaves, the former England and Tottenham goalscoring ace, Peter Osgood, ex-England, Chelsea and Southampton, and Tom MacAnearney, Manager of Aldershot.

Briefly.

- ARSENAL'S David O'Leary, holidaying in the U.S., intends visiting his favourite place Disneyland.
- Dundee will continue as a full-time team next season despite losing their place in the Scottish Premier
- Kevin Keegan will play his first game for Southampton in Dublin on July 23rd. The day after Keegan announced his decision to return to England, Shamrock Rovers' director Louis Kilcoyne visited The Dell and arranged the attractive pre-season
- Darlington offered manager Billy Elliott a new three-year contract before their re-election to the Fourth Division. Sunderland's former caretaker-manager has worked hard at Feethams to reshape future policy and encourage young players.

 Ex-Glenavon, Dundalk and Coleraine defender Con Davey will play for Cliftonville next season.

The one-time Glenavon skipper and European campaigner, who appeared for a Northern Ireland XI against the New Zealand tourists last season, switched to the Solitude Reds in exchange for Cliftonville full-back Brendan

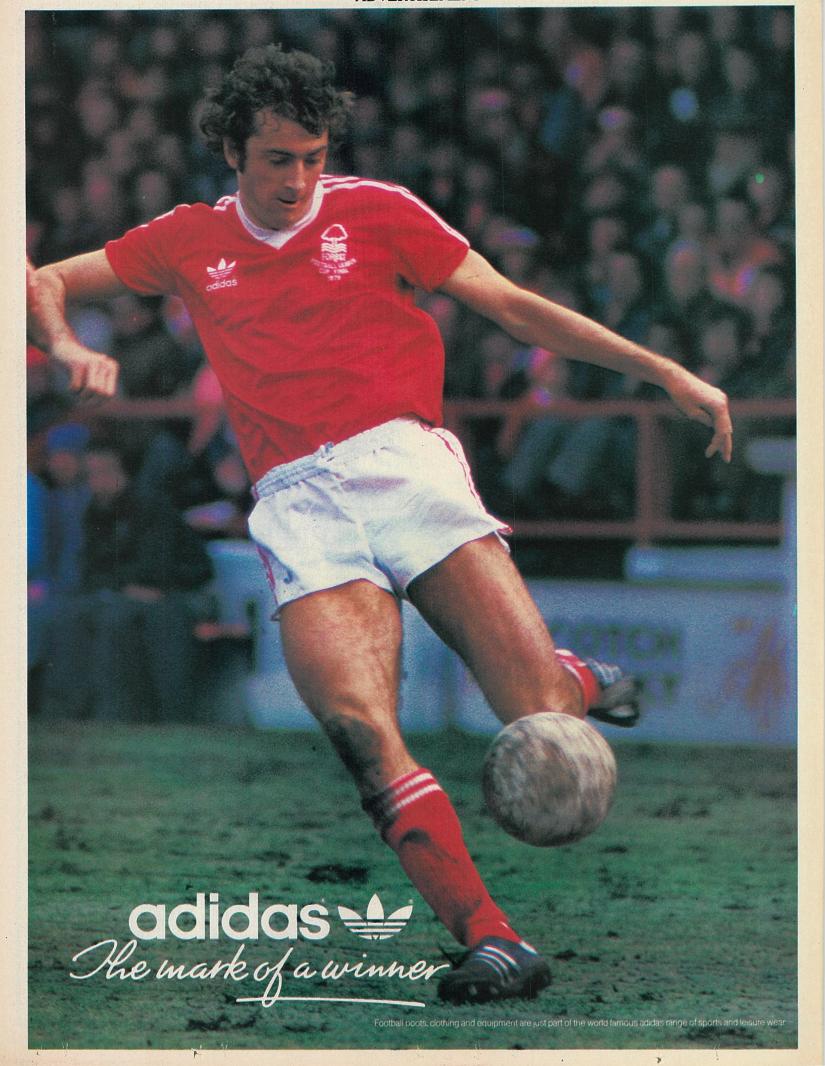
 Andy Wray, Manchester United's reserve winger, is going back to Hull. The Reds' youth team player has been released from Old Trafford after serving an apprenticeship and a year as

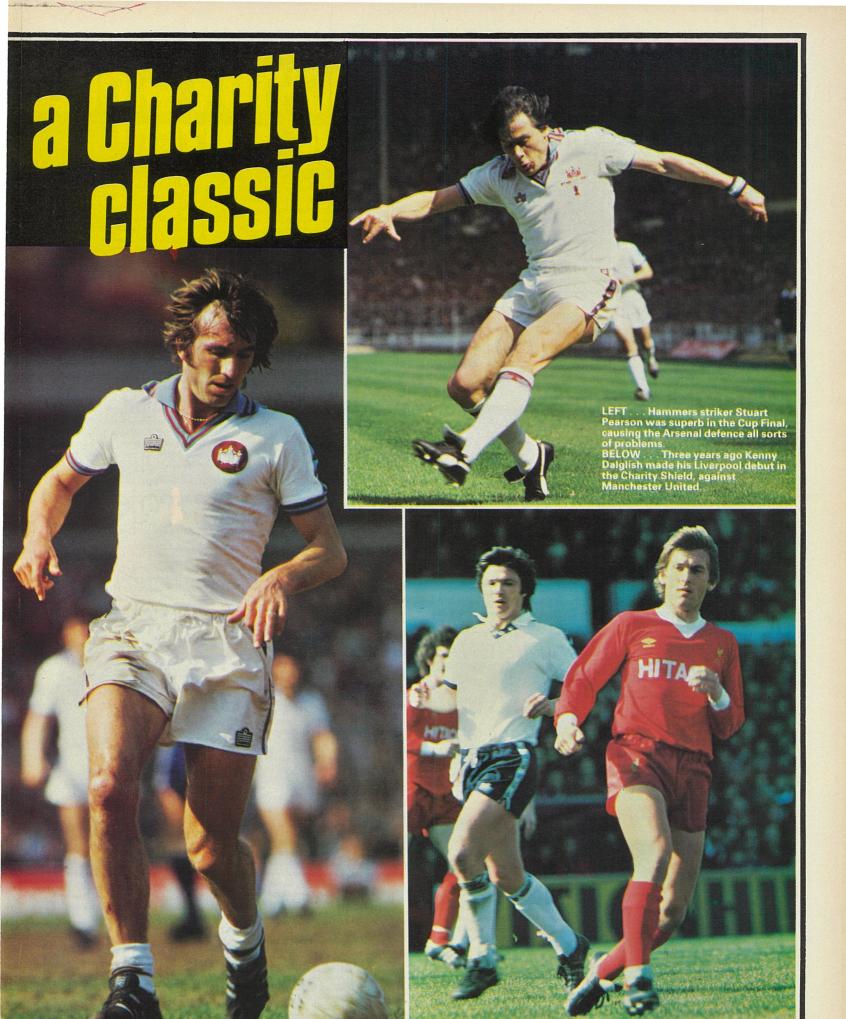
He will have a six-week trial at Hull.

- Former Meadowbank Thistle full-back, Rab Kilgour, freed at the end of the season by Hibs, has signed for St Johnstone.
- Ipswich strengthen their **Dutch connections with** another close season tour of

Holland in August before the English season gets under way. They play Nijmegen, William II, PSV Eindhoven, August 1 and 9.

- The League of Ireland players have joined the Irish Transport and General Workers Union, one of the strongest Unions in Fire
- Eoin Hand has persuaded his old club Portsmouth to visit Limerick for a pre-season friendly. Hand is now boss of the League of Ireland Champions.
- Rodney Guise, the man who is backing Blackpool to the tune of £20,000 by sponsoring the shirts that Alan Ball's men will wear next season, admits that he knows very little about football. In fact he's never seen them play!
- Egyptian FA wanted a top English referee to control a vital championship match. So FA Cup Final referee George Courtney (Spennymoor) flew out to Cairo





United open day

MANCHESTER United open their doors to the fans this Sunday (August 10) when they hold their second official 'Open Day' at Old Trafford.

Organised by the Variety Club of Great Britain, the main attraction will be an international five-a-side tournament featuring members of the United first team, England, Ireland, Scotland and a Dave Sexton Staff team.

There will also be free-fall parachuting, gymnastics, police dogs and martial arts displays. Gates open at 12 noon and admission is £1 for adults, and 50p for schoolchildren. Infants of five and under will be admitted free.

AMBITIOUS



FORMER Sunderland defender Mick Docherty has taken a step nearer to following his famous father into the world

soccer management.

After being forced out of the game by a recurring knee injury last season, Docherty junior has recently become a fully qualified F.A. Coach. Now he has been appointed take charge of the reserve and junior teams at Sunderland following former coach George Herd's appointment as manager of Queen of the South. Said Mick: "I am really looking forward

to the new season. Obviously my latest appointment will mean a lot of extra work, but I thrive on responsibility, and I realise this is a great chance for me.

"My eventual ambition is to follow my father into management, and having now qualified as an F.A. Coach should help me

Gaelic Moran

centre-back Kevin Moran caused a sensation when he came on as sub for his native Dublin in an important Gaelic Football match recently.

Moran was not listed in the official list of

noved to Old Trafford that the young Dubliner has reverted to Gaelic for a day. He was injured in the 1978 All Ireland Final, but fortunately he came through

TURNER TURNS DOWN LUTON

STEVE Turner, the son of Luton

Town's record goalscorer Gordon Turner, has turned down the chance to follow in his father's footsteps. The 25-year-old forward was on offer from Barnet at £35,000 and spent the last months of last season in Luton's

But, after scoring one goal in five reserve games, he has decided not to pursue a professional career in the game and his short-term contract with Luton was ended by mutual consent.

WATERFORD, pioneers of professional football in the League of Ireland, have a verted to a of Ireland, have : everted to a part-time status. Fifteen years ago The Blues began a tremendous run of success when they signed full-timers from England, but now manager Tommy Jackson feels that it will not affect the FAI Cup holders by going part-time again.



'HUGHTON SHOULD

DID Spurs' full-back Chris Hughton act hastily when agreeing to play for the Republic of Ireland last season? His Spurs' manager, Keith Burkinshaw, believes so.

oelleves so.
"In my view, there isn't a better
full-back in England," says
Burkinshaw. "All he has been
lacking is the confidence to believe in himself when he goes forward."

London-born Hughton qualifies

for the Republic under the parentage ruling.
Burkinshaw continues: "When

the matter came up just under a year ago, my first reaction was for Chris not to do it. I told him I was certain he'd get in the England

side. "I was persuaded to agree to for Ireland, I supp Chris playing for Ireland. I suppose if he can get international experience early it can only benefit

'At the same time, I stand by my belief that he would have become an England player and with this

had more projection."

The disappointing form shown by Liverpool's Phil Neal in Italy, and Viv Anderson's inconsistency last season means that Ron Greenwood may be looking enviously at young Hughton



debut after just 12 League games and has gone on to win three more. He has no regrets.

more. He has no regrets.
"There is no guarantee that I would have played for England. Football is a short career and you have to take what's going. I'm looking forward to playing in Ireland's World Cup qualifying team this season and helping them to Spain '82."

la's comm

SQUASH BAN

BIRMINGHAM boss Jim Smith has called a halt on his player's activities on the squash court following full-back

the squash court following full-back Kevan Broadhurst's (left) knee ligament injury which ruled him out of the club's recent five-match trip to Sweden. "We have worked hard to get back to the First Division," said Smith. "I don't want any of my players ruining our chances by taking needless risks, and consequently I've banned any of them

'Footballers are fit enough without

having to take on such strenuous extra activities. Training and playing keeps

them in good enough shape for the close-season, and I expect the players to realise their responsibilities to the

from playing squash for the entire

ASTON Villa have become pace-setters with the opening of their new sports hall near Villa Park.
The project is a combined operation between the big

Asda store group. Villa provided the land and Asda th

Now the hall will be open to the general public for all sorts of sporting activities.
Aston Villa will themselves use the facilites and will also

organise regular soccer coaching sessions.

Manager Ron Saunders welcomed the opening as a big step forward in providing much needed facilities.

One early innovation is that the former Coventry-based Team Fiat basketball team will in future be playing their home games in the hall which is capable of holding over

BIRMINGHAM

MANCHESTER United's talented young

subs, which sometimes number as many as ten, but he appeared at half-time to help Dublin reach the Leinster Final.

It was the second time since Moran

his latest game unscathed.

THIRD TIME LUCKY?

STRIKER Steve Taylor has joined Burnley the third team he has been with in his native Lancashire — and is hoping to help the Turf Moor club to regain some of their

former glories.

Mind you, Oldham-born Steve knows a bit about soccer outside his own county. While at Bolton, his first professional club, he had a loan spell at Port Vale and then moved from Bolton to Oldham. He then had a spell at Luton before Burnley snap-ped him up for £30,000 from Mansfield.

CARLISLE have made some interesting signings during the close season — but none should prove more valuable and loyal than that of

right-winger Stuart Metcalfe. The former England Youth international gave Blackburn 14 valuable years and it looked as if he would be ending his career at Ewood Park when he turned down a move to Exeter last November. But then Carlisle made a £35,000 offer and the local boy from Blackburn decided to



Fulton's Big Day

ST. MIRREN'S Scottish Under 21 international Mark Fulton (above) was a relieved man when he heard that his club had been drawn against Swedish side Elfsborg in the First Round of the U.E.F.A. Cup.

For Fulton feared that The Saints might

have to leave well in advance for the game on September 17, because just two days earlier he is getting married to fiancee Linda Douglas. But now St. Mirren manager Jim Clunie

has assured his young star that he will not have to miss his other big day after all.

FREE GIFT... FREE GIFT...FREE GIFT...FREE GIFT...FREE GIFT...



THE O'Brien brothers from Finglas, Dublin, are all left-backs, but their football careers are all lent-backs, but their rootball careers are spread around the world at present. Oldest brother Ray is with Notts County. Fran is in the U.S. with Philadelphia Fury and younger brother Derek is now back home with Bohemians after a spell with non-League side

..............

CRUTCHES DON'T BOTHER 'EM AT ROTHERHAMI

JOHN Green, Rotherham captain, was determined not to miss his team's Annual Photo Call day and despite just recently coming out of hospital after a cartilage operation, John managed to get on the team pic with the help of his crutches!



BERWICK Rangers, the only English club in Scottish football, turned in a record profit of £87,000 last season, their first after being promoted from the Scottish Second Division. During the season gate receipts doubled and transfer fees brought in £64,000.

LIFE hasn't always been a bed of roses for David Giles, one of the successes in the Welsh international team and a player who is looking forward to put-ting Swansea into the Second Division promotion race in the coming season.

The former Welsh Under-21, Youth and Schoolboy international found himself out of playing favour at Cardiff, had a short suspension at Wrexham after a training bust-up but settled in well at Swansea following his £70,000 transfer in November last year.

Originally regarded as a midfielder, he has put an attacking edge to his game — much to the delight of Wales

Meadowbank set to make a splash

MEADOWBANK Thistle may soon be playing their home games in a swimming pool! A feasibility study is going ahead to investigate the possibility of turning the now-disused Portobello open-air pool into a football stadium suitable for the Second Division side.

Second Division side.

In the long-term the club hope to persuade Edinburgh District Council into providing a multi-purpose stadium at Portobello, with facilities also for minor sports to meet the needs of the local community.

Thistle Chairman Mr John Blacklaw describes the proposal as a tremendously exciting one which would also create greater interest in the team who currently play at the plush Commonwealth Games Stadium.

FORMER Mansfield boss Billy Bingham did his old club a good turn in 1979-80 when, as Northern Ireland manager, he made defender John McClelland, the Field Mill club's first full international in their 75-year history.

The Newport County-Crusaders Cup-Winners' Cup pairing produces the first-ever European club confrontation etween Welsh and Northern Irish outfits.

It's not often that League of Ireland players beat their English colleagues in scoring feats. But they did come out on top in the League shoot-out last season Dundalk's Leo Flanagan had ten spot-kick conversions one better than the Football League Penalty Kings.

Clydebank have set a club spending record by paying £55,000 to neighbours Clyde for midfield man Gerry McCabe whose potential was weighed up by Clydebank manager Bill Munro earlier this year when he was in charge of the Scottish semi professional squad in Holland, of which McCabe was a member

Andy Wharton, Burnley's local-born defender, has won honours for Lancashire in three different sports.
The 18-year-old played

soccer for his county at

Schoolboy level and has also earned honours at cross country and table tennis

Third Division Sheffield United recently announced a profit of £258,793 for last season. This was due to the £450,000 transfer of Argentinian Alex Sabella to

Sporting family, Paul Bracewell, a Stoke City midfielder who made his League debut in March, has plenty to talk about sportswise with his family. Young Paul has played

basketball for Shropshire, good-class cricket and won swimming honours. One of his sisters is a former hurdles champion, another is a county hockey player and his young brother is also doing well at soccer.

'MADNESS OVER' SAYS McGARRY

NEWCASTLE United manager Bill McGarry is confident that the spiralling transfer

NEWCASTLE United manager Bill McGarry is confident that the spiralling transfer market has finally fallen into check after the million-pound exploits of last season. After a surprisingly quiet close-season in the market, McGarry says: "No club can any longer afford to buy players without selling others. Although there have been one or two big-money moves during the summer, I believe that fees are now going to come back to more realistic figures.

"There will always be one or two exceptions, like the Clive Allen deal, but I think players are going to have to pull in their horns with their wage demands.

"Clubs agk a certain figure for a player seeking a move. If they don't get any offere

"Clubs ask a certain figure for a player seeking a move. If they don't get any offers, they have to drop their prices to sell. Consequently they refuse to pay exorbitant fees when they are buying, and hopefully this is the start of a chain reaction."



rugby and football fans will be temporarily put aside this Monday (August 11) at the Cardiff Arms Park

For a Welsh international soccer XI will take on a team comprised of some of the greatest names from Weish rugby history (with the round ball) to celebrate the Centenary of the Weish Rugby Union.

Hugby Union.
John Toshack (left) captains the
footballers XI, and he will be joined by
Leighton James, John Mahoney, David
Giles, Mike England, Alan Durban, Arfon Griffiths, John and Mel Charles,

and Ivor and Len Allchurch. Gareth Edwards (right) is skipper of the rugby squad, which includes Gerald Davies, Phil Bennett, Derek Quinnell, Steve Fenwick, J.J. and J.P.R. Williams, and Geoff Squire.

The match will be refereed by Clive Thomas (who else?), and kicks off at 6.30 pm, admission 50p.



RADOMIR Antic, Luton Town's Yugoslavian international defender who was signed from Spanish club Zaragossa in June, is raring to go after being involved in a car crash in Yugoslavia.

The accident happened when Antic

- mil 100 / 100

was taking his family on a holiday. The car skidded on an oil patch and Antic, his wife and two children were all injured. Antic suffered an arm injury.

Willie the brave

GLENAVON 'keeper Willie Lennox made an incredible comeback to senior football last term, after losing the big toe of his right foot in an accident at his full-time job as a

Willie's triumph over tragedy and brilliant return to top-level action rightly earned him the admiration of colleagues and opponents alike. "Willie has got guts, make no mistake about that. He's an inspiration to us all," quipped one of big-hearted Lennox's often frustrated, goal-hunting rivals.

WEEK'S SENSATIONAL START-OF-THE-SEASON SHOOT!

'Have Goals



THE men with the number nine on their backs have always had a special place in the hearts of the HE men with the number nine

black and white fanatics on the terraces at Newcastle United.

Jackie Milburn, Albert Stubbins, Wyn Davies, Malcolm Macdonald — they have all gone down in the

The latest was Peter Withe, whose enthusiasm and whole-hearted battling made him a hero of the supporters before his half a million pound move to Aston Villa.

Now the man bought to replace him aims to build up just that sort of relationship with the Geordies who love to see goalscorers.

Ray Clarke moved to United from Brighton with a pedigree of having scored goals wherever he has played ... and his new manager Bill McGarry sees the £180,000 buy as the man to help take Newcastle out of the Second

Philosophy

In fact, Clarke's motto throughout his career has been "Have goals, will travel." It's a philosophy which has taken him to eight clubs

— and he's only 27.

Born in London, he joined Spurs straight from school, but like so many youngsters at White Hart Lane failed to make the breakthrough into a first team studded with his more business.

with big-money buys.
Clarke scored plenty of goals in
the reserve team, but the nearest
he got to the First Division was as
substitute before he was allowed to move to Swindon.

After a short stay in the West Country, his next stop was Mansfield where the goals began

to flow for two seasons.
Clarke was linked with a number of top clubs in this country, but

that's the motto Newcastle's new striker RAY **CLARKE**

nobody made a firm move for him and, after two years at Mansfield, he became a trailblazer for the Keegans and Woodcocks with a

Reegans and Woodcocks with a transfer to Sparta Rotterdam.
Recalls Clarke: "Bill McGarry played a big part in helping me get fixed up with Sparta and I've always been grateful to him for that. The fact that I owed him that debt played a big part in persuad-ing me to join him at Newcastle."

Two seasons at Sparta were followed by spells at Ajax, where he played in the European Cup, and Bruges.

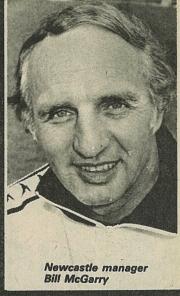
Eventually, he returned to Brit-ish football with Brighton saying: "I've never regretted making the move into Europe.

'It was a tremendous experience and made me a better, allround player. Everything was geared towards training with the ball and it improved me skillwise."

At Brighton, ten goals in 28 games helped keep the South Coast club in the First Division and Clarke was anticipating renewing his blossoming partnership with Peter Ward when McGarry step-

The player had already turned down an approach from FC Nuremburg in Germany, but readily agreed to join Newcastle

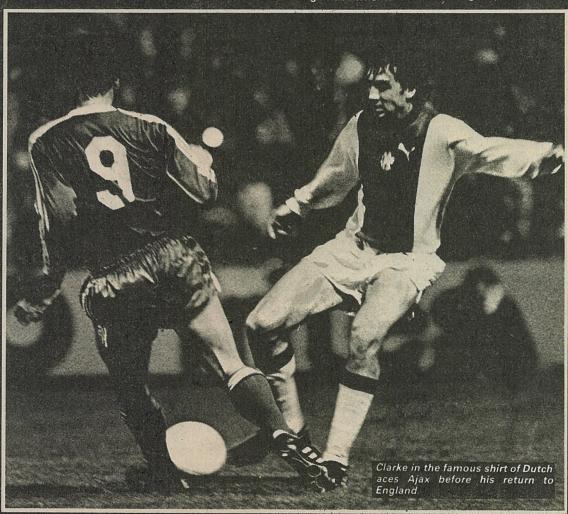
"I've always believed it was best to go where you were wanted, and I knew I was by Newcastle It probably helps explain why I've had so many clubs, but I'll be more than happy if this turns out to be my last move.
"United are a big club who



should be in the First Division and I hope my goals can help us get there. I'll be disappointed if I don't score at least 20.

"And if that makes me a favour-ite with the fans, I'll be delighted. I've always had a good relationship with supporters — I received 500 good luck letters from Bruges

fans when I left.
"I have always relished a challenge, and I liken the task in hand to that I faced when I joined Brighton last season. Then I was joining a club who had to prove themselves in their first season in Divison One, now I am at another team with something to prove.







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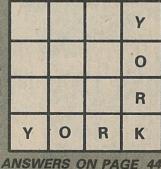
Choose just one letter from each horizontal row (marking off each one as you use it), so as to spell out the name of an English or Scottish League team. As a guide, the first one, MEADOW-BANK, is indicated for you.

M	K	S	D	Н	P	G	S	В	S	C	M
0	С	E	A	0	1	1	U	Н	0	A	
U	T	R	R	A	N	R	L	L	R	L	R
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N	L	A	N	0	C	0	A	P	T	E	R
L	D	M	Y	M	N	K	E	L	K	Н	R

SQUARE

Place the letters of the smaller frame into the larger one, so that they form a word square reading the same across and down.

A	N	0
0	R	S
S	T	Т



F they hand out honours for the most travelled team in the country then Forest would already qualify for first prize.

Our pre-season preparation just has to be one of the most arduous, yet adventurous, of all time.

We've been to Canada, the States, South America and Holland ... a good halfway round the world.

After less than a week of preseason training Forest flew out to Canada on July 27th for a match against last year's NASL Champions Vancouver Whitecaps.

Then we flew clear across America to Florida and a match against the Tampa Bay Rowdies.

A quick look around Miami Beach and it was off to Colombia for two games in Bogota.

I'd never been to any of those countries before so it was a tremendous experience.

mendous experience.

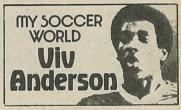
How did Brian Clough react to all the travelling? He didn't go. The team was in the capable hands of Peter Taylor.

But Forest's pre-season globetrotting didn't end when we arrived back home. Brian Clough had arranged a four club international tournament in Amsterdam against Ajax, Bayern Munich and a local Dutch side.

Unfortunately I had to write this column before taking part in the tournament so I can't give you details of the results. No doubt Peter Shilton will bring you up-to-date.

Sadly this is my last regular column in SHOOT. My year's stint is over although Editor Peter Stewart has asked if I'll come back from time to time commenting on the news from the City Ground.

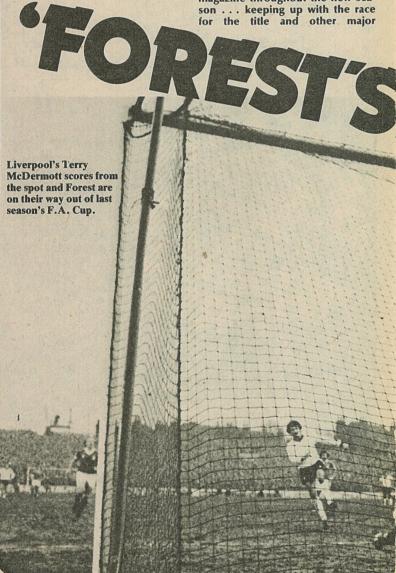
I've enjoyed these last 12 months and involvement with Britain's leading soccer magazine.



Until I joined the team of star writers I didn't really appreciate just how widely read the magazine is.

how widely read the magazine is. In Canada, South Africa (remember I was there coaching after returning from Italy), America and even Bogota, fans thrust copies at us for autographs.

As you know, most players and managers read SHOOT and I'll continue to take a keen interest in the magazine throughout the new season . . . keeping up with the race for the title and other major



honours.

Obviously Forest will be making the Championship our number one priority — as always. The title is Brian Clough's prime target every year. Anything else is secondary... the jam on the gingerbread as my mum says.

As soon as the new season kicksoff on Saturday week (August 16th) Forest will forget all about the European Cup, even though it stares at us every day from the showcase in the main entrance to the ground.

The League title is the stepping stone to everything...the ultimate for every First Division player.

To be the best after 42 matches over nine months in the toughest, most competitive League in the world, is a never to be forgotten experience.

The involvement, commitment and triumph can turn ordinary players into internationals . . . average teams into great ones — as Brian Clough has proved with his achievements in such a short time at Forest.

The same old faces will be in contention for the Championship this season . . . Liverpool, Manchester United, Arsenal and loswich.

An outside bet? I've got a hunch Aston Villa could do well this time if they can steer clear of injuries.

The introduction of Peter Withe from Newcastle should bring much needed punch to their front line. And Ron Saunders is a better manager than given credit for in some circles of the media.

Sunderland may also spring a sur-



prise or two. Their new defender Sam Allardyce from Bolton will strengthen a defence that could have found life difficult in the First Division.

The other two promoted sides, Birmingham and Leicester, have also bought new players during the summer.

You've got to make changes after winning promotion . . . strengthen your first team squad. If not then you stand very little chance of consolidating the newly-won position.

As soon as Forest came up in 1977 Brian Clough bought Larry Lloyd, Peter Shilton and Kenny Burns . . . all vital signings term. They had a fantastic run in after Christmas but were unable to catch up with the leading pair because of a disastrous early spell.

Forest, too, took time to get into our stride, especially away from home. We must improve on that record this time out.

There are several young players to look out for in 1980-81.

I particularly like the look of Everton winger Joe McBride, Manchester City defender Tommy Caton and Arsenal's £1.2 million forward Clive Allen.

All impressed last season and should make their presence felt.

One good bet for either the League Cup or F.A. Cup this season are Tottenham, Forest's opponents in our opening day fixture at White Hart Lane.

What an occasion to kick-off a new season. The European Cup holders against a Spurs side containing new strikers Steve Archibald from Aberdeen and Garth Crooks from Stoke.

The Londoners beat us 1-0 in last season's corresponding game. It won't be any easier this time...no away game is.

Another target for 1980-81... to establish myself in the England side and help them qualify for the next World Cup Finals.

O.K. so we weren't too impressive in Italy, but then which country was.

Extend

I was pleased with my own performance against Spain, though, and expect to be called up for the first of our qualifying ties against Norway in September.

One run I would like to extend is the M1 all the way out to the middle of the North Sea.

We could then herd all the soccer hooligans along that route and dump them where they will do least harm

Now a brief mention of Saturday's (August 9th) Charity Shield match at Wembley.

Much as I admire West Ham and the way they beat Arsenal in the F.A. Cup Final last May, I must take Liverpool to win and retain the trophy, especially if they can hit the form that demolished Arsenal 3-1 at Wembley last August.



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HE TIE CELTIC SHOU



HE season is hardly past the new born stage and yet already we have clocked up a few thousand miles in the never ending effort to spread the great name of Celtic.

With an eye to lifting another European trophy — the Cup-Winners' Cup this time — we took an eight days, four games pre-season tour to West Germany and Holland in July.

It was all very enjoyable and worthwhile . . . but I will never let a German or a Dutchman say a bad word about British summers again! When we were in their countries, their idea of a good day was warm

But joking apart the exercise was good, and an important change to trips around Scotland playing preseason games against clubs from

When we go away there is no great pressure and the players get a chance to work on things which would be far more thoroughly scrutinised at home.

On our tour there was only a handful of fans and one Scottish sportswriter with us . . . so it was all done in a lower key.

It gave youngsters Charlie Nicholas and John Halpin a chance to break through . . . and they took their opportunity well.

However there will be far more pressure around when we take on Diosgyor of Hungary in the prelimi-nary round of the European Cup-Winners' Cup.

And things will hardly improve in the First Round proper if we go through, for then the opposition is Politeknia of Rumania.

I have heard suggestions from certain quarters that it is a disgrace that Celtic, with such a European

preliminary round at all when so many less famous teams go through to the First Round automatically, especially after we reached the European Cup Quarter-Finals last season.

Well, if nothing else we are in good company, for Benfica have been forced to play in the early round also.

It is not the fact that we have an extra two games to play that worries me so much as we will have to go behind the Iron Curtain twice.

It was bad enough with the whole business over Albania last year . . never to be forgotten adventure, for all the wrong reasons.

Mind you, one thing that was certainly more than passable in Tirana was the stadium where we played . . . which is a roundabout way of bringing up football grounds and who pays for them.

The Kronenbusch Stadium near

played the amateurs of SV Wesseling, is no Wembley, indeed its capacity is only 7,000. But it has a message for British football and its way of life.

The place is immaculate and the pitch is manicured to perfection. Altogether it is well situated for FC Wesseling. Despite the fact we whipped them 8-0, they are only about the standard of the juniors in Scotland

But there is one vital difference between Wesseling and Scottish junior outfits. The German club, like nearly every side in that country, don't own their ground.

The local council rent it out to Wesseling and this arrangement makes the Kronenbusch such a glorious little ground.

Facilities

And that is the case throughout West Germany, hence the facilities over there are way ahead of ours because the clubs do not have to pay for the total upkeep.

Football is the biggest sport in the land and yet — as proved by the Hampden affair — the Government are loathe to give us money. In Germany and throughout Europe, the opposite applies.

Finally, I owe an apology to Ayr United and to alert SHOOT and United fan Graeme Storie of Davarr, Dunure, Ayrshire.

Graeme wrote to me about my Tartan Talk in the July 5 issue when I referred to my dislike of Ayr's outfit with the black panel down the side.

He said: "I didn't think it was very exciting myself, but they changed it three years ago. The shirts are white with black diamond trim and the shorts are black with red and white. Oops! Sorry, Graeme, you are right, of course, and my only excuse

is that I haven't seen Ayr for ages.

NEXT WEEK'S TARTAN TALK BY RANGERS' DEREK JOHNSTONE

















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So, Diego Maradona, rated by many as the world's top footballer, hasn't reported to Barcelona to begin training with the Spanish club — and three months of wheeling, dealing, haggling, speculation and legal battling have come to a fruitless end. It's worth taking a look at the events and personalities surrounding Barcelona's incredible £2,750,000 bid to capture the 19-year-old Golden Boy of soccer just two years after they'd rated Maradona 'too expensive' at £200,000!

B ARCELONA'S record-breaking offer travelled to Argentina in the hands of intermediary Jose Minguella (the man heavily involved in bringing Tarantini to Birmingham City a couple of years ago). Arriving in Buenos Aires on April 24th, he and his Argentine partner, Ricardo Fuica, approached Maradona's club with an offer of five million U.S. dollars.

to drag Grondona to the Law Courts for an infringement of personal liberty.

"We have the chance to build a superb club with this money," lamented Consoli. "We could build a covered swimming-pool, a gymnasium . . . we had it all worked out. We insisted Barcelona pay by instalments rather than in cash, as this gave us a favourable tax position . . . everything was perfect."

In fact, Argentinos were to receive four million dollars in cash; and the remaining two million in four payments ending on June 20th, 1984.

Maradona, himself, was also shuffling astronomical figures in his head during Argentina's European tour. His share of the transfer fee worked out at £412,500. Barcelona were giving him a signing-on fee of £870,000. And £150,000 a year basic salary for the next six seasons. Plus £500 per month living expenses. And match bonuses which total £10,000 even in a bad year.

"That's without publicity ..." grinned Maradona. "I don't know

What's more, SHOOT can reveal that Barcelona's deal with Maradona also gave the Spanish club a 30 per cent share in the "Maradona Corporation" the organisation set up to handle all Diego's receipts from publicity, public appearances and so on.

Advertising

With their 30 per cent of the takings, Barcelona reckoned to reduce their outlay on Maradona by anything up to two million dollars — especially as they plan to sell advertising space on the shirts and shorts worn by Diego in exhibition matches.

"My shirt'll be more cluttered than Nicki Lauda's driving suit," predicted Maradona, "and the club has said that they'll be playing two televised matches in Argentina every year for a fee of £200,000 a game . . . "

But while Barcelona were busy convincing everybody that Maradona was the best investment they'd ever made, things were going wrong back in

Meanwhile several moves got underway among Argentine fans in a bid to keep their idol in the country. There was a campaign to persuade 100 businessmen to put in 10,000 dollars apiece; a gigantic TV spectacular was proposed with the profits going to Maradona; Buenos Aires' richest club, River Plate, thought of staging a gala dinner with places costing 1,000 dollars each.

In the face of such displays of public affection for Diego, Consoli's threats of legal action fizzled out after a couple of attempts to pressurise the AFA, and a bid to drum up support from the other Buenos Aires clubs.

Finally, Maradona admitted "It looks as though I'm staying in Argentina. But I've signed a contract with Barcelona that's valid until 1986, and that means I can't sign for any other club without their permission. That's why I've had to turn down a ten million dollar offer from Juventus. No, as soon as the 1982 World Cup Finals are finished, I'll be joining Barcelona."

WONDER-BOY MARADONA

STAYS IN ARGENTINA

despite Barcelona's six-million-dollar bid

The Argentinos Juniors' President, Prospero Consoli, was away on business, so no decision was taken for three days — though Minguella wasted no time in getting the green light from Maradona himself and his agent Jorge Cyterszpiler.

Finally, Argentinos Juniors demanded six million dollars; Minguella reported back to Barcelona; and two of the Spanish club's directors promptly hopped on a plane to Buenos Aires to clinch the deal. On the 3rd of May, Argentinos, Barcelona and Diego Maradona signed contracts linking the player to Barcelona until 1986.

Panic

Predictably, all hell broke loose when headlines announcing the transfer hit the news-stands. Amid a wave of panic in the pampas and nearhysteria in Buenos Aires, Julio Grondona, President of the Argentine Football Association, calmly pointed out that the transfer was illegal, as Argentinos had been one of the clubs to have signed an agreement whereby members of Menotti's 1982 World Cup squad were to remain in the country.

"There's no room for argument," he stated categorically, "Maradona is absolutely untransferable until after the next World Cun"

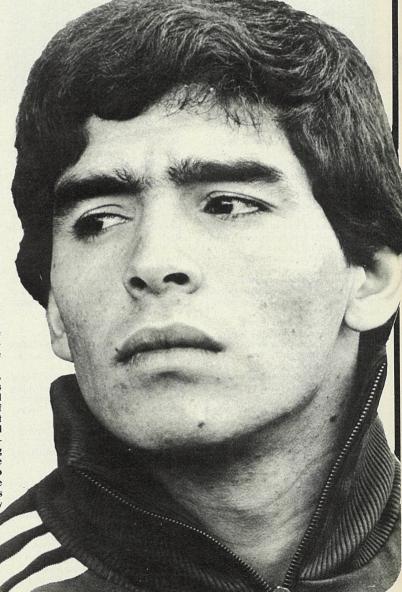
the next World Cup."

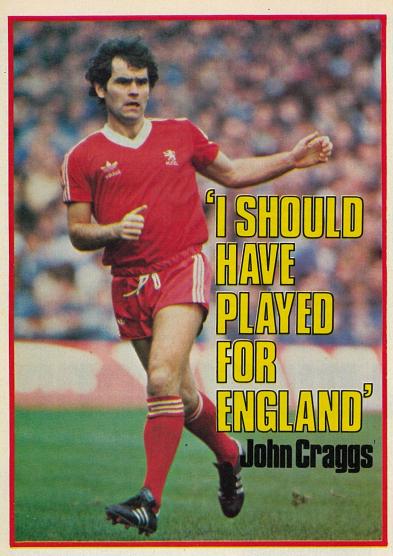
Argentinos Juniors angrily vowed

how the Argentine authorities can stand in the way of such a fabulous offer. I've even thought of resigning from the Argentine national team and just 'escaping' to Spain."

In the meantime, Maradona's arrival was arousing rather different controversy in Spain. Public opinion was generally against such a massive outflow of currency, and several politicians remarked in the Spanish parliament that it seemed ludicrous at a time when Spain is finding it difficult to raise enough dollars to buy oil. Later, the government was to propose a new law restricting imports of footballers and, as we go to press, the matter is still being debated.

In the face of sustained criticism, Barcelona President Josep Lluis Nuñez claimed that the club would actually make a profit out of Maradona. The cash was to be put into two foreign banks, he explained — one American and one French — and it would be easily repaid bearing in mind the club's current programme of adding a further 28,150 places to their Nou Camp stadium, bringing the capacity to 111,000. With Maradona's super skills bringing in capacity crowds week after week, the club could reckon to make £1,500,000 profit every season!





PETER Shilton, Colin Todd, Mick Mills, Joe Royle . . . all team-mates in the England Youth team of 1967 who went on to full international honours.

And playing alongside them in the side which lost in the Final of the Little World Cup in Istanbul was right-back John Craggs, then with Newcastle.

Today, at the age of 31, Craggs has moved to Middlesbrough and remains one of the most consistent defenders in the country.

But a full England cap has always eluded him and the stylish full-back now believes his chance has gone for ever

has gone for ever.

"Being honest, I think I've probably deserved to play for England at some time over the years." said Craggs.

years," said Craggs.
"Of course, it's up to the
managers, but I was always a bit
disappointed that I didn't get a
chance, especially during a spell in
the Seventies when England didn't
really have an established
right-back.

"There were even occasions when England had a player at right-back who didn't even play in that position for his club. I don't think that is a good policy."

Craggs' international dream hasn't been helped by the fact that he has spent the bulk of his career with Middlesbrough, undeniably one of the First Division's less fashionable clubs.

Now he hopes that the team's current clutch of highly promising young players don't suffer a similar heartache. He feels it would

be tragic if talent such as David Hodgson, Craig Johnston and Mark Proctor were overlooked because they were not with one of the big city clubs.

the big city clubs.
But Craggs also believes that
this trio and others, such as Peter
Johnson and transfer-listed lan
Bailey, can boost their chances of
catching Ron Greenwood's eye by
helping bring success to Ayresome
Park.

"If we can get into Europe and make a realistic challenge for the League and Cup next season, it will push Boro into the spotlight. That can only help their chances of a cap at some level," says Craggs.

'Safeguard'

Craggs also praises former Celtic star Bobby Murdoch for the work he has done with the Middlesbrough youth team. "He's got some great young lads coming through which should safeguard the club's long-term future," says Craggs.
"But I've no intention of letting

"But I've no intention of letting any of them take my place for some time. I was happy with my form last season and feel I'm playing as well as ever.

"Perhaps I don't get forward as much as I used to, but that is largely because Terry Cochrane was playing on the right-wing for most of last season. "It cuts down the room available

"It cuts down the room available for the overlapping runs which used to catch the eye, yet I don't mind so long as the manager realises that I'm still playing my part in the team."









OHN Barnwell has been manager of Wolves for less than two years - yet he has transformed the club and made his team the flagbearers of the West Midlands.

In November, 1978, when **Barnwell and former Shrewsbury** Town boss Richie Barker teamed up at Molineux Wolves were going nowhere except the Second Division.

Even when they pulled off a remarkable escape act, they were still bracketed with five run-of-the-mill teams. Q.P.R., Birmingham and Chelsea were relegated that season, while **Bolton and Derby suffered the**

same fate 12 months later. By then, Wolves were second only to Nottingham Forest as the top-placed club in the Midlands and they beat Brian Clough's European Champions in the League Cup Final to qualify for Europe.

Along the recovery road, they built a new stand for £2 million signed a million pound player, Andy Gray, and bought one of England's most-capped defenders, Emlyn Hughes.

Challengers

Where will it all end? Well, Hughes is backing Wolves to join his old mates at Liverpool as Championship challengers and Barnwell, after a summer sunshine trip to America, says boldly: "Any player in the country will consider coming to Wolves because we're on the up and up."

Rafael Villazon, a 24-year-old Uruguayan with more than 21 international caps, certainly had no doubts. He arrived from Huelva, of the Spanish Second Division for £140,000, but Barnwell admitted: 'I'm not sure where to play him. He's a back-four player but can also play in midfield." Now that Bolton midfield player Peter Reid will not be coming to

Molineux, it is possible Villazon will find a place in the team after

Nothing but the best is good enough for the revitalised Wolves.

Don Masson will be joined by Eddie Kelly at Notts County in the club's promotion bid.

The best for the team this season could be a long run in the U.E.F.A. Cup — because First Round opponents PSV Eindhoven will be more worried about Andy Gray, Emlyn Hughes and John Richards than Wolves will fear the Cup holders of 1978.

Nottingham Forest are automatically named as the Midlands' best hopes of unseating Liverpool's hold on the Championship trophy. That was the case even before lan Wallace was bought from Coventry City for £1 million-plus and Swiss midfield star Raimondo Ponte from Grasshoppers.

Brian Clough's critics - and there are always plenty ready to snipe at a persistent winner point to a dreary European Cup Final performance, the failure against Wolves at Wembley, the doubts surrounding Trevor Francis's future

And they will be wrong again. The rest of the League were just



MPIONS if they e



lucky that Forest lost their away formula last time. Clough probably still has nightmares about those 13 away defeats - but that won't happen this time.

Mark Forest down as a strong bet for every competition.

Coventry City should be happy about their goalscoring department. Wallace eventually went to Forest and Mick Ferguson was previously wanted by Clough yet neither player was sure of a place at Highfield Road at the end of last season.

It's not a sign that Gordon Milne had taken leave of his senses. He just had the good fortune to have Garry Thompson, a 20-year-old certainty for the England Under-21 team, as well as teenagers Tom English and Mark Hateley, both members of England's Little World

Cup-winning side in May. By selling Wallace, The Sky Blues now have cash to spend in midfield. Success is overdue for Coventry — but can they attract the right men to Highfield Road?

Buying proven talent was not a problem to West Bromwich Albion manager Ron Atkinson. He

collected four players for more than £2 million, but the successful 1978-79 blend seemed to be disjointed after the arrival of Peter Barnes, Gary Owen, John Deehan and David Mills.

The chemistry failed somewhere and Albion dropped from third to tenth in 12 months. It might be harder to re-discover the blend than the problems of building a £2 million replacement for the main stand over the next 18 months.

Aston Villa had a similar disappointment after winning the League Cup and finishing fourth in 1976-77. The expected improvement failed to follow, although there was nothing much wrong with their consistency in the next three seasons — eighth, eighth and seventh.

In terms of crowd potential and tradition, Villa are still the Midlands' top club. They also have the most promising youngsters in the region.

Left-back Colin Gibson and striker Gary Shaw were First Division regulars at 19 last season and more like them are coming through from the junior side which



= 3 awayday gloom

won the F.A. Youth Cup and Southern Junior Floodlit Cup last season.

Goalscoring was Villa's biggest problem and manager Ron Saunders hopes he has solved that with a £500,000 investment in Peter Withe. The tall, powerful import from Newcastle is already well known in the Midlands after service with Woives, Birmingham and Forest.

He could be just the man to inspire more gifted forwards like Shaw and Brian Little, who is fully fit after a summer cartilage operation. Further good news is that former England full-back Mike Pejic may yet have saved his career with a groin operation.

Villa have more talent than most, their pay structure rates with the best, but it's time the superbly-appointed Villa Park was filled to capacity. This could be the season — at least with success in one of the Cups

Also good for Villa is the enewed competition with **Birmingham City. Promotion** earned a four-year contract extension for manager Jim Smith and he's on the right lines with his transfer connection with Derby County's more successful days

Archie Gemmill and Colin Todd vere tremendous in the Second Division and now they're joined by ex-Baseball Ground full-back David Langan at £350,000. But Smith was disappointed when his search for a new striker failed to secure the services of Chelsea's Tommy Langley

Even so, Blues still have a stronger-looking squad than in their last First Division campaign. The only snag is that they are traditionally bad starters - not good news with a fixture list including Manchester United, Liverpool, Forest and Kevin Keegan's Southampton in the first three weeks.

But Smith says: "We worked hard all last season for the right to play these teams. It doesn't matter who we are playing — we know it's going to be difficult." The Midlands' other promoted

club, Leicester City, came up as Second Division Champions and that was another honour for Jock Wallace, one of Britain's most successful managers after twice winning the Scottish grand slam with Rangers

Nothing should be surprising when Wallace makes up his mind. He always knows what he wantsand he usually succeeds. A good reason for tipping Leicester to settle down safely.

Stoke City managed that last term, but manager Alan Durban won few friends with a defensive style. It could be the same again, especially as last season's leading goalscorer Garth Crooks has left for Tottenham.

But if Lee Chapman, son of former Villa and Lincoln striker Roy, can follow Crooks' progress this time, then Stoke could still

surprise a few teams.
But it wouldn't be a surprise to see Derby County doing well in the Second Division. Most experts rated them unlucky to go down on their form after Christmas and management partners Colin Addison and John Newman know exactly what's required.

Experience

Notts County won't be far away in the promotion race and no Second Division side could wish for more experience in midfield than a combination between ex-Scotland star Don Masson and Eddie Kelly, a bargain signing after

leading Leicester to promotion.
They would be strongly fancied if Jimmy Sirrel manages to inject

more scoring potential.
That's rarely a problem for Walsall boss Alan Buckley. He's one of the best strikers around himself and after leading The Saddlers out of Division Four he's done the right thing by boosting the defence with Steve Baines from Bradford.

As Walsall went up from the Third, they were passed by Mansfield Town on the way down. The Stags have struggled to find their true form in recent seasons, and it is hard to predict promotion at Field Mill in the new season.





shoot's Nationwide

polish. They eventually lost their

Celtic will kick-off the new programme with grim
determination and in that mood
they can be a fearsome sight.
Aberdeen will do everything to

hang on to their newly-won crown, but they will undoubtedly miss the penalty-box sharpness of Steve Archibald and the goalscoring onus may prove to be too much for Drew Jarvie, Mark McGhee and Ian Scanlon.

Celtic, who could do with a new face in their attack, have a more or less settled line-up and that will be crucial in the coming months.

So, we are sticking with the Parkhead men, but we have bad news for newly promoted clubs Hearts and Airdrie. We don't think their rise to fame will be a long lasting one.

Last season Hearts were thrashed 6-1 when they played Rangers at Ibrox and Airdrie were walloped 8-0 by Aberdeen at Pittodrie in Scottish Cup games. Those matches can be used as good pointers to their form when it comes to the crunch and it

doesn't auger well for the future. Hearts have been a yo-yo side in recent years switching from the Top Ten to the First Division with monotonous regularity and we don't think they have yet found a successful formula that will keep them among the elite in Scottish

soccer.
Airdrie will undoubtedly give

suggest last time out. Who goes up with them? That's not an easy question to answer. Dundee, with new manager
Donald Mackay, will be making
every effort to bounce straight
back in one go, but SHOOT thinks
Ally MacLeod's Motherwell might

take that second spot.
We predicted Motherwell would win the First Division title last season and got that wrong, but we're willing to give them a second chance. They started last year under a cloud and it showed in their play. This season things should be different and, with the experience of 1979-80 not doing them any harm, we take them to

go all the way. We think Motherwell might be a force to be reckoned with in the Scottish Cup, too, if they get the right sort of draws, but the eventual winners of that tournament could be either Rangers or Aberdeen, two good Cup fighting sides.

Celtic (hoops) lost their confi-dence after going out of the Euro-pean Cup to Real Madrid.

Top Ten title for Celtic

CELTIC to win the Premier
Division title . . . Hearts and
Airdrie to be relegated . . . Hibs to
be promoted back into the Top Ten relegated Clyde to return to the First Division.

Those are SHOOT'S firm predictions after another close look into the crystal ball of soccer and obviously not everyone is going to agree with us. However, let us underline the reasons why we believe these things will happen at the end of the new

Celtic blew their title chances last season when they threw away points with ridiculous abandon on the run-in. By the time they had got back to their feet they couldn't prevent Aberdeen galloping off with the first prize.

Celtic will be a better team after

that experience. A lot of their players grew up last season.

Reaction

There is little doubt that the Parkhead men suffered a reaction after their disappointment against Real Madrid in the European Cup Quarter-Final. Goals from George McCluskey and Johnny Doyle gave them a two-goal advantage from the first-leg at Parkhead and they went to the Bernabeu Stadium full of confidence.

Doyle hit the bar, McCluskey missed an open goal . . . and right on half-time Real scored a scrappy effort. Celtic eventually slid out of the trophy on a 3-2 aggregate and that defeat left a terrible scar.

"It hit my players hard," said manager Billy McNeill, and no one is going to argue with that summing up. Celtic lost their poise, their rhythm and their

Alex Ferguson, the ambitious Dons manager, has had a look at the Continent in search of new faces, but he hasn't come up with anyone yet.

Rangers have bought Colin McAdam, from Partick Thistle, and Jim Bett, from Belgian club SK Lokeren, and John Greig may not be finished in this department, but the chopping and changing might hinder the team.

Last season Greig introduced youngster John MacDonald being compared with Jimmy Greaves these days - and also bought Gregor Stevens, from Leicester City, and Ian Redford, from Dundee. These three players are still feeling their way and possibly the rebuilding at Ibrox will take another season before we see the fruits of John Greig's



anyone a hard time of it on their tight, little pitch at Broomfield, but away from home they will be vulnerable and in the dog-eat-dog world of the Premier Division they can't expect any favours.

One Airdrie player who might surprise a few teams is striker Sandy Clarke, who was wanted by Hibs last season, but the Broomfield side turned down a £150,000 cash offer.

He is swift and alert around the penalty box, but he is bound to suffer from the lack of support. Exit Airdrie!

Hibs know all about the harsh realities of soccer after last season's fall from grace, but the Easter Road men should climb to the top of the tree in the First Division without too much trouble. They are far too good for that company and they weren't as bad as a lot of their results tended to

Former Scotland boss Ally MacLeod could help to steer Motherwell back to the Scottish Premier Division

In the Second Division, Clyde will be hoping for a rapid return to the First and with knowledgeable manager Craig Brown there to guide them we believe they will achieve promotion for the second

time in three years. Forfar, with former Scottish international goalkeeper Stewart Kennedy joining them on a free transfer from Rangers, could be good enough to claim the second

spot.
Obviously our predictions won't keep everyone happy, but that's the way we see the season running in Scotland. Unhappily, we can't see much success for Aberdeen in the European Cup, Celtic in the Cup-Winners' Cup or Dundee United and St. Mirren in the U.E.F.A. Cup.

The Celts are probably the best geared of the lot to have a run in **Europe, but the Paisley Saints** could shock a few big names on their pitch at Love Street. Overall triumph, though, still seems a bit much to ask any of these clubs at the moment.

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All letters must be exclusive to SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from Andreas Papanicolaou of Winchmore Hill, London, who wins our Star Prize of £5. He

PUNISHMENT **TOO HARSH**

Football has enough problems as it is without the F.A. needlessly and maliciously adding to them.

Recently they decided to chastise Tottenham Hotspur and Coventry City. Why? For alleged irregularities concerning F.A. Cup Final tickets.

"Fair enough" you may comment. But when one considers those involved (two juriors on Spurs' hooks and a part-

But when one considers those involved (two juniors on Spurs' books and a partime member of the Coventry staff) then one will agree the punishment is severely out of proportion.

If either of the teams reach the 1981 or '82 Cup Finals (in Spurs' case this would not be too unlikely) their ticket allocation would be affected. From the already pathetically low 25,000, 2,500 less would be issued to supporters. With average gates of 35,000 at Spurs (in a poor year) this action would be (in a poor year) this action would be cruel to true fans.

l ask the F.A.: what will happen to the 'floating' 2,500 tickets? More than likely they will end up in the greedy hands of the touts. Needless to say, this will increase the F.A.'s difficulties.

It all seems misdirected time and

energy especially as, only three miles away, Stan Flashman and Co were (according to the Press and angry

Arsenal fans) buying hundreds of Cup

Final tickets!

The F.A. has to stamp down on any Cup Final tickets indiscretion to warn others that they will not tolerate clubs' representatives misusing their alloca-

German League best

am writing in reply to a letter in which Andrew Matthorns said he

which Andrew Matthorns said he believed that English League football was as good as any in the world. I strongly disagree with this statement. Although as you said English clubs have won the European Cup for the last four years, if you look at the U.E.F.A. Cup competition, which many players believe is the hardest Cup to win in Europe, last season West Germany had the four teams in the Semi-Final stages of the Cup.

This shows that the German Bundesliga is the best League in the world. The Germans' superiority in football was

Germans' superiority in football was also shown in the European Champion-ship, with West Germany proving that they are the best team in Europe.

they are the best team in Europe.

Another point is that people say that the English League produces the best young players in the world.

Well, just look at the 20-year-old who the Bundesliga has produced, Bernd Schuster, who must be the greatest prospect in Europe, if not the world.

In the Championship he showed speed, skill, ability in the air as well as

on the ground: also he displayed a great alterness for the game with a vision of what was happening around

Thus I think that the English League must come second in comparison with the German Bundesliga.

STANLEY HORKAN, BILLINGHAM.

Does the fact that English clubs invariably come out on top in Anglo/German clashes prove something? Now read World Wide on pages 38/39.

Everton relegated?

read with great interest your article on Brian Kidd (below). I couldn't be-lieve it when Gordon Lee sold Kidd to Bolton, after he had scored 18 goals in a season where Everton finished in 19th

His excuse that "Brian was only a short term proposition when we bought him" isn't good enough for me, as I feel that Kidd could have given



Everton another two seasons at least Kidd was by far Everton's best striker last season, sometimes taking on defences on his own, through total lack of support.

Lee must get a settled side before the kick-off, unlike last season, or unbelievable as it may seem, this time next year
Everton may be in the Second Division.
DANIEL WIGGINS,
LIVERPOOL.

Considering how much money Lee
has spent, Goodison fans have a right to

expect them to be challenging you-know-who for the Championship, not battling against relegation

Proud name

WITH reference to your July 5th SHOOT View column, I would like to advise you that this Association totally agrees with your comments, but would like to place on record that in no

would like to place on record that in no way was any member of the England Football Supporters' Association involved with the trouble in Turin. In fact, wherever we have visited, Luxembourg, Denmark, Italy or elsewhere, we have a proud name and intend to keen it. intend to keep it.

DAVID STACEY
ENGLAND FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS ASSCN

Pen-pals

M a 15-year-old Dutch boy. I love English soccer and would like to have pen-pals. My team is Feyenoord. WOUT BONGERS, JACHTLAAN 165,

7313 CX APELDOORN, HOLLAND

am an 18-year-old Swedish boy and I'd like to write to a boy of my age who supports Derby County. ROGER PETTERSSON, who supports Derby

BOX 48, 380 74 LOTTORP SWEDEN.

In your August issue of

- Is Kevin Keegan needed by Phil Boyer?
- Why the European Championship must change to survive.
- John Robertson's invaluable role in Forest's triumphs.
- Jock Stein's World Cup plans for Scotland.
- Why Steve Archibald is happy to remain anonymous.
- Supermac names the top three young strikers to watch.
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ASWITCH

HE long and winding road to soccer fame and stardom can often be a frustrating route with more than its fair share of dead ends.

Eric Morris, the versatile Ayr United goalscorer, certainly knows all about the unexpected twists and turns that football has to offer.

He made his name as a goalgrabbing outside-left with a junior club and a host of teams were anxious to sign him. He was even tipped at that early stage as a future Scottish international player.

Rangers eventually won the race for the talented outside-left and then things went drastically wrong for Morris.

He dropped into the obscurity of reserve football and then, amazingly, was switched to left-back! And then centre-back!

Morris must have been wondering what was going on, but he admits: "The experience of playing in so many different positions will not do me any harm.

"It was interesting in a way and I was eager to show Rangers that I was first team material . . . in any role. However, things didn't work out quite as expected."

Last season Ayr United desperately needed firepower in their

attack and manager Willie McLean delved into his memory banks in the search for a new player.

his junior days and decided to take a chance that he hadn't lost that goalscoring art despite his switch to defence.

McLean paid out £25,000 for Morris, gave him a place in his attack and was immediately

rewarded with a hatful of goals.
"I enjoy scoring," says Morris.
"But I'll play anywhere I'm told. I
just want to see Ayr United getting some of the success they are undoubtedly due."

Ayr have been ravaged by transfers in recent seasons.

Talent

manager McLean worked well with the talent he has at his disposal and promotion is their main aim in the future. They were tipped as possibles last time out, but they suffered too many shock reversals to put in a serious threat.

Those lessons have been taken to heart and the players are determined not to make the same mistakes in the coming season.

Eric Morris wants to show his speed and skill in the top Division. He was not afforded that platform with Rangers . . . he is eager to show them where they went wrong in converting a naturallygifted marksman into a defender.

Just watch him go!



SANDY CLARKE could be termed the Rangers fan who is eager to make life extremely difficult for the Ibrox men in the coming seasons.

Clarke is the exciting young frontrunner of newly-promoted Airdrie and he admits: "Yes, I have a soft spot for Rangers. I supported them when I was a boy and I once dreamed of playing for them.

'I'm in no rush to leave Airdrie. In fact, I've just signed a new contract with them but if I do move in future I wouldn't mind it being to lbrox."

There will be no sentiment, though, when Clarke lines up against his former boyhood idols

will be on my mind. I am paid to score goals and it doesn't matter who we face . . . that's exactly what I will be trying to do."

Clarke may be a new name to fans of the Premier Division, but manager Bobby Watson says: "He is a confident, chirpy character and he can be a big name in the game.
"He won't fail for the lack of

confidence. He likes nothing better than to get his name on the scoresheet and he even volunteered to take the penalty-kicks. He missed one against Arbroath at Gayfield a couple of years ago, but he said that was a fluke!'

Jock Stein is another team boss

RANGERS FAN WANTS
TO HAMMER THE T BLU of the elusive Clarke.

who admires the penalty box skills

He played him in the Scottish 'B' team in Holland during the close season and Clarke was brilliant. Scotland won the tourna-ment, beating Holland 3-0, England 4-2 and drawing with Italy 0-0.

Clarke was made skipper of the team and showed the confidence that Bobby Watson talks about when he netted a hat-trick against the Dutch in the opening game.

Hibs wanted to sign the player last season and bid over £150,000, but the Broomfield board decided to turn it down.

"That decision made me happy," says Watson. "It proved that everyone at Airdrie was united in trying to build a team rather than sell

Big Test

Clarke's value has continued to rise, but he knows the big test lies ahead.

"Soccer is a challenge," says Clarke. "That's the way I like my football. No one at Broomfield will be

shirking the challenge, believe me." Airdrie, like Clarke, are a bit of an unknown quantity after several years out of the limelight. They were hammered 8-0 by Aberdeen in the Scottish Cup last season, but it must be said that they did have two players ordered off that day which have two players ordered off that day which, obviously, didn't help their cause

Bobby Watson points out that they did beat Dundee United 2-1 at Broomfield in the League Cup although they lost in the second-leg at Tannadice by the odd goal. United, of course, went on to take the trophy.

"Don't count us out," says Watson. "We know things will be difficult, but we will be having a go. We will surprise a few teams, especially at Broomfield."

Sandy Clarke

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO

SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

Unbeaten away

Can you tell me which Football League club has had the longest run without losing an away game?

PHILIP HARRISON, LEICESTER

I think any side would be hard pressed to better the feat of Huddersfield Town, Philip.

They were unbeaten in League games away from home for a year all but a day — from 15th November, 1924 until 14th November, 1925.

Designed that the Muddersfield along the form that the property of the property of the form that the property of the form that the form the form the form that the form that the form that the form that the form the

During that time Huddersfield played 18 First Division games — winning twelve and drawing six.

Woeful Watford

Which club has scored the least number of Football League goals in a season? PHILIP BANNISTER, LONDON, S.E.25

• In a season of at least 42 games, Philip, Watford are the club — and 24 the total. That's all they scored in the Second Division in 1971-72.

Worst record in the First Division is the 26 goals scored by Leicester in 1977-79.

Needless to say, both were relegated at the end of those depressing seasons!

the League's distant past
Two happened in the 1891-92 season
when Aston Villa beat Accrington
12-2; and West Bromwich beat Darwen

Then, in 1908-09, Nottingham Forest beat Leicester Fosse (now Leicester City) 12-0. Nearest in more modern times was on 11th October, 1958, when Spurs beat Everton 10-4.

Youngest player

ls it true the youngest footballer to play in a big League match in England was only 14?

ROY STEVENSON, HELSTON

Well, yes — and no — Roy. A school-boy named Cameron Buchanan certainly played in a competitive first team match for Wolves v. West Bromwich on 26th September, 1942.
 But this was a Wartime League match which, unfortunately for him, doesn't count in the official Football League records.

records.

The youngest in a full peacetime Football League match is still Albert Geldard—who later went on to play for England with his Second Division debut for Bradford P.A. v. Millwall on 16th September, 1929, at the age of 15 years and 156 days



Travelling international

Has any player represented England in full internationals while on the books of more than three clubs?

GARY RIXON, SOUTHAMPTON

Well, I can certainly think of one, Gary, and he's still very much going strong today. That's Dave Watson, whose first caps were gained while with Sunderland and Manchester City — and then, more recently, with Werder Bremen and Southampton.

Record score

What is the highest-ever score by a team in an English First Division match? PAUL MITCHELL, RUNCORN

A round dozen is tops, Paul — and that's a record set up by three clubs in



 Arsenal's record home gate is 73,295 (v Sunderland; Division One; 9th March, 1935). (TERRY CONWAY, Botswana)

Oxford United's first Football League match was a 3-2 defeat at Barrow (Div Four) on 18th August.

(DAVID THORNE, Oxford)

 England have played Cyprus twice in full internationals — winning 5-0 at Wembley (April, 1975), and 1-0 in Limassol (May, 1975) — both in the Europeán Championship.

(COSTAS LOIZIDES, Cyprus)

Brian Flynn played 120 League games (eight goals) for Burnley before his transfer to Leeds in November, 1977.

(YVONNE SMITH, Bradford)

Kempes (two) and Bertoni scored for Argentina in the 1978 World Cup Final; Nanninga replied for Holland. (ANDREW PARSONS, Deal)

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United must be even more

AVING finished second to Liverpool last season, some people will look upon it as a failure for Manchester United if we don't win the Championship in 1980/81. Perhaps . . . but the Old Trafford fans place a high value on entertaining football and it's almost as important to attack as it is to win.

I'm not sure if they'd like to see us win the title by playing 'winningball' rather than football. By that I mean playing cautious, counter-attacking soccer, soaking up pressure rather than forcing it upon the opposition.

I'm not just talking about our home games, either. United have such a big following away from Old Trafford that there are always thousands of our fans present,

wherever we play.

I said quite a few times in my column last season that I thought Liverpool were a better team than United, yet in the final reckoning the Anfield Reds pipped us by just two points.

Consistency

The reason the Championship went to Merseyside and not Manchester was that Liverpool showed more consistency than we did. That isn't to say we were INconsistent! Simply that when it came to the crunch, Liverpool won the extra vital points.

They were unbeaten at Anfield, while we lost at home to Wolves. That can make all the difference. This season, we must aim to improve on that — yes, improve on one defeat in 21 home games. That's the sort of standard you have to set if you're going to be Champions.

It was said that United were in a false position last term - that we weren't really that good a team. That's rubbish. You don't push Liverpool for the title over a period of nine months if you're an 'ordinary' side. And if United were 'not good', what does that make the rest, who were never in with a

I believe this United side can become better. As I said, we must

strive for more consistency, which will be achieved by an all-round improvement. We have young players who will surely be better for last season's experience, such as goalkeeper Gary Bailey and striker Andy Ritchie, while waiting in the wings is our foreign signing Jovanovic, who could could break through soon.

When I heard that United were interested in signing Liam Brady I was pleased that such a fabulous



player could be joining the club. It shows just how ambitious United were to be (possibly) involved in a record-breaking transfer. I'm a paid-up member of the Liam Brady Appreciation Society; many times I've sung his praises and a player of his calibre would benefit any side in any country.

Liverpool — as usual, THE team to beat — have strengthened their squad by buying Chester's Ian Rush and Fulham's Richard Money. I could say I don't know why — they have so few injuries at Anfield! I've no idea why. Perhaps those injured

been spending a lot of money. They always have been hard to play against, but with the extra attacking power of lan Wallace and Raimondo Ponte they'll be even harder. Ian is a super player, a quick, strong striker with a keen eye for goal. I don't know if Forest will win the title, but they'll be there or thereabouts.

I don't know too much about Clive Allen, except what I've seen on television. Arsenal have a lot of potential goalscorers, although their goal-touch deserted them when they needed it most at the

consistent'

are afraid to admit it as it can be hard to regain their place if they drop out!

At the moment, I can't see any new contenders for the title. I'd say the old faithfuls will once again be the main challengers. No doubt we'll see a few teams having good starts, only to fade away.

Southampton may surprise a few, especially with Kevin Keegan. I'd have fancied Saints to do well even without Kev, but obviously their hopes have improved now they've signed him.

Nottingham Forest, too, have

end of last season

Clive will obviously be a big asset to them. Of all the 21 teams in the First Division, I rate The Gunners as the most difficult to play against. Their midfielders constantly deny you space and possession — Arsenal certainly have what it takes to win the title, and perhaps young Clive will be the missing link.

Ipswich haven't been busy in the transfer market, but if they carry on as they left off last season they'll be up at the top again. In 1979/80, they started badly, yet picked themselves up to qualify for the U.E.F.A.



Ray wilkins WRITES FOR YOU

"Arsenal's midfield constantly deny opponents the time and space they need, and players such as Brian Talboi make The Gunnars one of the most difficult teams to play against."

Cup with a long unbeaten run.

The Dutch boys, Arnie Mühren and Frans Thijssen, keep them buzzing, while Mick Mills is still as influential defender as you'll find. I also like the centre-backs Russell Osman and Terry Butcher.

All the top clubs, except Arsenal, will be involved in European competition as well, and with four trophies to aim for, I hope we can

It was only three years ago that United won the F.A. Cup, but three years is a long time for a club with such a glorious tradition of success.

Difficult

From a personal viewpoint, I certainly want to score more goals than I did last season — which shouldn't be too difficult! I notched just two; even though I tend to be the anchor man in midfield, I should still improve on this tally.

I was pleased with my form for England in the European Championship and I'm aware that I'll be expected to continue at that level. All I can say is that I'm feeling sharp and refreshed, keyed up for the new season.

Our opening two fixtures should test us: Middlesbrough at home

and Wolves away. Four points from those two matches would set us off on the right foot!

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compiled by EDDIE McKEE

INFIELD, just six years short of their own 100th Birthday, celebrated the Centenary of the Irish Football Association in style by winning four major awards -Irish League, Irish Cup, Ulster Cup

and Gold Cup — in 1979-80. The Belfast Blues' successlittered campaign also marked their fourth-ever League Champ-ionship "hat-trick", a unique Ulster Cup "treble" and a second Irish League and Cup "double" in three seasons, their three-term titlewinning sequence producing 52 wins, nine draws and only five defeats in 66 League games.

And, last season, Linfield amassed 35 victories and suffered only seven defeats in 48 competitive fixtures, as they surged to un-limited success and silverware. That they took the Irish League crown with nine points to spare over nearest rivals Ballymena United was further proof of their

overall superiority.
Indeed, only a shock, end-of-term County Antrim Shield set-back by Irish Cup Final foes
Crusaders denied them their thirdever Grand Slam of all the available senior trophies.

Supremo Roy Coyle's thoroughly professional leadership has inspired his trophy-crammed, medal-laden Super Blues to the dizziest heights in recent season.

勤

Linfield may be a part-time outfit but in attitude and approach, both on and off the park, we are as professional in outlook as any club in British football. That's what sets us apart from the rest in the North-ern Ireland game," said Coyle.

Professional

Cool, confident Coyle, his country's Manager of the Year for the second time in three years, is a thorough professional. He knows he can't afford to relax at the helm of this big-thinking, ultra-successful club, whose 60,000-capacity Windsor Park stadium is, of course, Northern Ireland's home international venue.

However successful, manager Coyle is always on the look-out for top-quality talent to boost his first team squad, a progressive attitude which has reaped rich dividends in

the trophy-hunting stakes.

Major captures like Warren
Feeney and Colin McCurdy, from Glentoran and Larne respectively, experienced Irish international Tre-Anderson, and Lindsay IcKeown and Steve McKee, from Sheffield rivals Wednesday and United, ensured Linfield maintained their match-winning continuity and almost total supremacy at domestic level.

The capability and versatility to make and take scoring chances was a main feature of Linfield's victorious run last term.

As they totalled 130 competitive goals, no fewer than six Bluemen, leading marksmen McCurdy, Jameson, Feeney, Anderson and McKee, and even skipper and central defender Peter Rafferty, one of Ireland's top set-piece specialists, finished with double-figure goal MEIEININ

-the Super Blues of Belfast

records.
"We are one of the very few teams around who possess so many players capable of scoring goals," says mentor Coyle. "Even if one or more of our main strikers are off form, we still have the capacity to find the target."

Menacing McCurdy, the North-ern Ireland P.F.A.'s Player of the Year, hit 33 club goals, including three "hat-tricks" and six "doubles", plus another three in representative outings against Australia, when he notched the winner, the New Zealand tourists and the Scottish League. In fact, opportunist Colin was Linfield's top-scoring seasonal ace in more than a decade!

And perennial Irish League goal-getter Warren Feeney, for so long the scourge of Linfield in his trailblazing Glentoran days, bagged an impressive 20-plus tally, including a superb treble in a crushing 5-0

Windsor Park demolition of his old club.

Trevor Anderson made a successful return to the Ulster game, which he had originally graced with Portadown before his crosschannel switch to Manchester United, Swindon Town and Peterborough United, with whom he totalled around 200 League outings and 22 full Northern Ireland honours. Both Anderson and Steve McKee added considerable power to the rampant Blues' attack.

The inability of Irish Under-21 ace Billy Murray, the club's top scorer the previous term, to command a regular senior berth in '79-80, underlined Linfield's immense strength-in-depth up-front.

But, while the attacking "Big Guns" blazed the goal and glory Guns" blazed the goal and glory trail, new-look, midfielder-turnedsweeper Lindsay McKeown, a Football League reject at Manchester United and Sheffield Wednes**Facts and Figure:**

in their 94-year history is the legendary Joe Bambrick, who totalled a stunning 94 goals for club and country, including a unique British Championship double "hat-trick" in Ireland's 7-0 Belfast defeat of Wales, in the 1929-30 term.

THE Blues' best-ever European performance was reaching the Quarter-Finals of the 1966-67 Champions' Cup, where they lost 2-3 on aggregate to C.S.K.A. Sofia.

BEFORE losing to Crusaders in the County Antrim Shield, at the tail-end of last season, Linfield had won 17 Irish League and Cup games on the trot.

LINFIELD's attractive Match-Day magazine, "Look at Linfield", was voted Ireland's top football pro-gramme in 1979-80. Editors Billy Kennedy and Ivan Little were also awarded the Roy Stewart/Sean Mullan trophy for services to Irish soccer in '79-80.

~~~~~

LONGEST-serving current Blueman is Inter-League full-back Alan Fraser, who has been at Windsor for more than twelve years, and he's still only

LINFIELD supremo Roy Coyle and Striker Warren Feeney also won lrish League Championship honours with the other half of Belfast's "Old Firm", Glentoran, earlier in their careers.



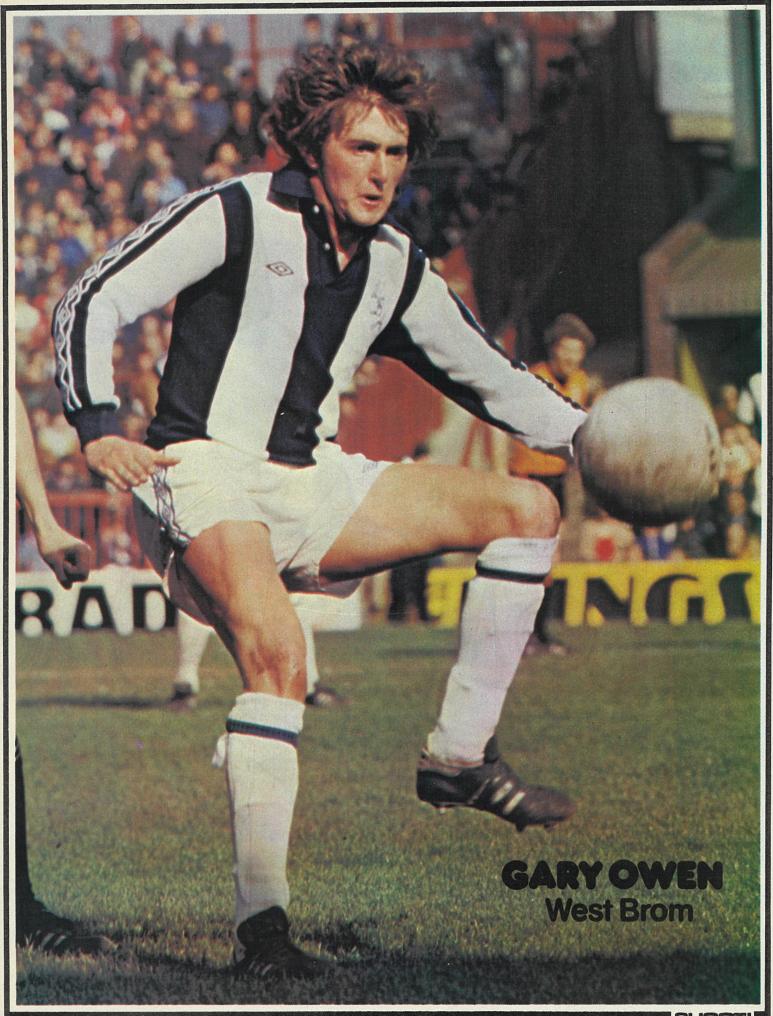
Roy Coyle

day, revealed his true potential. He continually displayed the class and composure which earned him Inter-League recognition and the Ulster Footballer of the Year and Northern Ireland Football Writers' Player of the Year accolades.

Seasoned captain Peter Rafferty and classy McKeown give The Blues strength and stability at the back, a department which can also call on the likes of brilliant 'keeper George Dunlop.

Add midfield artists Peter Dornan, Davy Nixon and Johnny Jameson, and the potent strike-force, and you can see why all-conquering Linfield rule the roost in Northern Ireland

This proud and progressive out-fit, with a record 33 Irish League wins and 32 Cup triumphs, plus many more top honours, to their credit, are set for even futher nearfuture success.



SHOOT!

## 'I'm Monty... confidence. And I'm certain I've still got a couple of good years left in me to offer someone," Jim went

The January sales may still be a long way off, but we've got good news for any manager who might be hunting for a real bargain right now.

Jim Montgomery, at 36, and with around 700 first team games at top level behind him, has the hankering to hear the roar of the crowd again. And that means goal-keeper 'Monty' has relinquished his role with European Champions, Nottingham Forest, as understudy to Peter Shilton, and is ready and willing to listen to any offers that will guarantee him a return to first team soccer.

## 'Experience'

"When I went to Forest on a free transfer from Birmingham last summer, I knew full well what I was letting myself in for," explained Jim. "And I don't regret my decision at all. It's been a great experience for me to work under Brian Clough and Peter Taylor. Their views and methods are dif-Their views and methods are different from any other manage-ment team I've been associated

"And I feel I've picked up many valuable pointers from them.

"I'm well aware that I'll have to drop down two, or maybe even three Divisions to get what I want. But I think it'll be worth it.

"They say goalkeepers get better as they get older. Whether or not I've got better is really for bargain."

others to say. All I know is that at the end of last season, physically, I felt in tip-top condition, and full of

"Peter Shilton sets a tremendous example to train alongside. He's got total dedication to his trade. I may be a few years older than Peter, but I'm certainly not ashamed to admit that I've learnt

ashamed to admit that I've learnt from him during the last year.
"Brian Clough needed to fill the gap left by Chris Woods' move to QPR, and at the time he wanted someone with experience, whom he could rely on, if the need to deputise for Peter should arise. But the same apparatus that I'd it was generally accepted that I'd only stay for the one year. "There have been one or two

tentative enquiries from various managers. But as yet, nothing concrete. Besides, I don't intend to rush into anything. I want to consider all the possibilities, and be

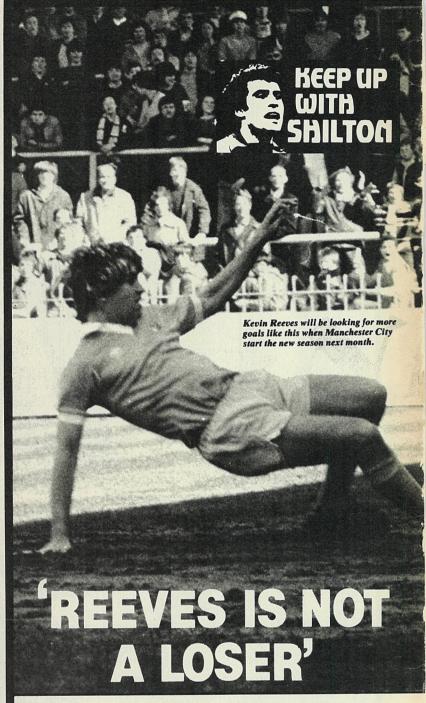
sider all the possibilities, and be sure that wherever I move, it's in the best interests of myself, my family and the club concerned." Reflecting on his time with Forest, Jim has no hesitation in pointing to the club's European Cup success in Madrid as the high-

spot.

"Although I didn't get in on the action myself, I shared the triumph along with all the other lads," said Monty. "It was terrific.

"Mind you, I did play in one Cup Final while I was there, you know. Our Nottinghamshire County Cup win over Notts County. That was, as far as I can remember, the one and only time I had to deputise for





EXT season will be an important one for many clubs and managers, but none more so than Manchester City and Malcolm

A lot of questions were asked of Malcolm — and fingers pointed at him — last season, but it was unfair that so much pressure be placed on him so quickly.

But with 12 months behind him this coming season is a better time to judge what's going on at Maine Road.

It's never easy for players to settle with a new club, and that was one of Manchester City's biggest problems with the likes of Steve Daley, Mick Robinson, young Steve Mackenzie and then Kevin Reeves all arriving at the

club as big money men.

Having twice moved for sizeable fees myself, from Leicester to Stoke and Stoke to Forest, I know what they were up against, but, in some ways, the lads I have referred to have had it easier than me.

Being a goalkeeper you don't get the chance to settle down. You either do your stuff right from the off or have got to be left out of the side . . . it's as simple as that.

## **Expected**

But, now that the settling-in period is over for City's new play-ers, they will be expected to produce their skills and justify the faith that Malcolm had in them.

I will be particularly interested to see how Reeves develops. He impressed me a lot during his time at Norwich — not just because of his playing ability but the manner in which he handled all the speculation about his proposed transfer to Maine Road.

He kept a cool head throughout the whole episode and, to my way of thinking, said all the right things at the right times.

But now he will be looking to do a vast majority of his talking on the



we were unhappy to lose that identity in the League.
So come the start of the new season in August one of our priorities will be to get back into the groove and once again become one of the most difficult sides to beat week in, week out.

There were one or two reasons why we were more vulnerable last season, and one of them was the fact that we underwent a transitional period with the likes of Frank Clark, Archie Gemmill and Tony Woodcock leaving.

Against that Trevor Francis was still something of a 'new boy' and at one time or another Frank Gray, Asa Hartford and Stan Bowles were introduced to the side.

It's part of football that players come and go, and history proves that Brian Clough and Peter Taylor

More transfer moves are taking place at the club but I sincerely hope — and believe — that the 1980-81 season sees none of the sequence of away defeats that cost us any chance of contesting the Championship.

As I mentioned in my last article there is a lot of glamour attached to winning the European Cup, and having carried it off twice we are desperately keen to make it a hattrick.

But I can tell you that we are equally anxious to do our best to regain the First Division championship we won in 1978. It won't be easy with Liverpool around, but we will be trying our best to topple them.



## ED A BREAK'

WONDER if people realise how difficult it has become for footballers to have a family holiday?

From my own point of view, I can tell you it's been a bit of a nightmare, particularly this year with all the end of season involvements with Nottingham Forest and England.

I'm not complaining too much because it means I've been suc-

cessful with Forest and in demand on the international scene — and they are both very important to

But at the same time, getting away for a complete break has not been easy, bearing in mind that we report back for pre-season training at Forest in 11 days' time. It's not that I am on my own either, because Viv Anderson and

Garry Birtles, who were also in Italy for the European Championship, have had exactly the same commitments as me. And had Trevor Francis not received his unfortunate injury he would have been

in the same boat.

When he was injured and had come out of hospital after his Achilles tendon operation, Trevor skipped off on holiday to the South of France for a couple of weeks

.... and who could blame him? I speak for all footballers when I say we love the game, but it's also important for us to take a break, devote some time to our families and recharge the batteries.

It is the only way we can get the absolute maximum out of ourselves during the season . . . and that's what we all want to achieve.

HE board of directors at Dundee had a big surprise in store for the club's fans when they named their successor to former boss Tommy Gemmell.

Names such as Billy Bremner and Peter Lorimer, the two former Leeds United favourites, had been mentioned among the possibilities for Dens Park, but, instead, Dun-dee gave the job to Donald Mackay.

Donald Who? That was the reaction outside Dundee when the appointment was made.

## Backroom

Mackay is a former goalkeeper with Dundee's great city rivals United and, after spells in English football as a backroom boy with Southend and Hull City, he moved to the Continent as a coach of a Danish Third Division side.

"Everyone has got to start somewhere," says Mackay. "This job is a real challenge to me and I'm looking forward to it."

The appointment was a complete surprise to the Dundee fans who saw their team relegated last season after just one term in the Premier Division.

Mackay, though, is a realist and he wants people to judge him on his efforts in the coming season.

"Promotion has got to be our priority," he says. "Dundee are far too good a club to be outside the top Division. We'll be doing every-



thing we can to climb straight back in one season."

The new Dundee manager has met his players and left them in no doubt what he expects and demands from them in the new

"Any team that can beat Celtic 5-1 has got to have something to offer," says Mackay. "What we must do in the new season is maintain that sort of standard on a consistent basis.

## Hard work

"One-off successes are no use to anyone. We must play well at all

Mackay is obviously not going to

attempt to dodge the hard work that undoubtedly lies ahead. The confidence of the players has taken a severe knock and Mackay must restore that vital commodity. But the new boss will not be plunging into the transfer mar-

ket to buy new players.
Instead he will give everyone on the Dens Park staff the opportunity to show him what they are capable



Dundee have some useful players in the shape of Eric Sinclair, a rugged, hard-working striker, lan Fleming, bought last season from Sheffield Wednesday, lain Fergu-son, a young, enthusiastic goal-scorer, and Bobby Glennie, a tough defender.

And Mackay must know all about the qualities of his goal-keeper Ally Donaldson. Veteran Ally, now in his mid-30's, kept goal for Dundee while Mackay played for United!

So, there's an exciting season in prospect for Dundee fans. They have a team eager to prove that they are too good for the First Division and they have a new manager who is determined to show everyone that he is the real Mackay for Dundee.

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FAMILY will go to 'war' in the A new season when Celtic and

encounter. In the green corner will be Celtic's Tom McAdam, one of Scotland's most gifted central defenders since his positional switch from attack two years ago.

Rangers meet in their first Old Firm

In the blue corner will be Ran-gers' Colin McAdam, who recently made history by being the first player in Scotland to move under the new Freedom of Contract code when he transferred across Glasgow from part-time Partick Thistle to Ibrox Stadium.

Tom and Colin are footballing brothers, and when they meet in that opening Old Firm clash another piece of history will be made. It will be the first time that brothers have faced one another in a Celtic v Rangers game.

How will they feel? Tom says: "Colin will just be another opponent for 90 minutes. There won't be any brotherly love or anything like that. We certainly won't be doing each other any favours!"

Colin says: "Tom has told me about the special atmosphere in Old Firm games, but I never thought I would ever be facing him in one. It's an exciting prospect, but, naturally, I'll be doing everything I can to make sure Rangers win."

Tom and Colin have been in competition before although they both started their soccer careers with Dumbarton.

Tom was a goalscoring striker at the time and Colin was playing deep in defence.

Ironically, Tom is now a defender, with Colin finishing last season as a marksman with Partick

Thistle, scoring 20 goals!
The last time the two brothers met was just before the end of the season when Thistle played Celtic at Parkhead and Tom recalls hap-pily: "We won 2-1 and I managed to score the winning goal."

Certainly Colin McAdam is look-

ing forward to his new career although it is tinged with a little

Thistle were left fuming when the deal went through. Manager Bertie Auld wanted £500,000 for his star goalscorer, but Rangers offered only £80,000.

## Determine

Unhappily, a tribunal had to sit to determine the fee, but Thistle still feel they should have collected half a million pounds.

"I wanted to see Mr Auld personally to tell him about the move," says Colin. "I wanted to see him face to face rather than him finding out from some other

"Unfortunately, I went to Firhill twice to see him and he wasn't there.

"I will say this, though. He worked wonders for my career and I am a vastly improved player now than when I first joined three seasons ago from Motherwell.

'Mr Auld worked at my game and I owe him a lot. He is a superb manager, one of the best in the business."

Colin admits to being Rangers daft as a youngster. He used to watch his favourites from his stance just to the right of the players' tunnel.

"It's the move I've always wanted," says the 27-year-old former Physical Education teacher who will now become a full-timer

We are told that Tom also watched Rangers when he was a youngster, but there are no doubts about where his loyalties lie these

## The return of Leighton James

AFTER 12 years, the wanderer has returned. The Welsh accent has been diluted by the years with Burnley, Derby County and Queens Park Rangers — but the talent of Leighton James is, he insists, sharper than ever.

As he signed for his hometown club Swansea City in a £130 000

As he signed for his hometown club Swansea City in a £130,000 deal, the winger of dazzling world class skill argued: "My best football is yet to come" — a promise he delivered at once by his devastation of England during the British Chempiasekin ish Championship.

"I've grown stronger over the years and, with that added strength, I've been able to maintain better consistency. The thought of playing for John Toshack as well as with him AND for my local club made the chance of joining The Swans impossible to

resist.
"I hope that I can give him just that extra bit that everyone seems to think that the club needs to become a promotion side. I know that I have the chance to produce

the finest football of my career.
"The ideas and outlook of men don't change when they become managers. I've had so many years working with John in the Welsh attack that I know a great deal about his views on football. They are the kind of views that excite and entertain. And that's my game!"

But why wait so long for a move that he had wanted "I his life?" Because, when I was termined to make football my career, the club wasn't good enough," says James sharply. What is more, that opinion is absolutely right.

Under Toshack's bold leader-

ship, Swansea have bounded from the Fourth Division to the Second — and that is only a staging post towards the First. "It is the kind of club where everything that is going to happen is laid out before says James.

Like his hometown club, his own career has suffered its switchbacks

of success and near despair.

"I've always known what I could do and I've proved it often enough. That was the light at the end of the tunnel when I didn't seem to have too much else going for me. Foot-ball is like that. For instance, after a relegation season with Burnley and all the worries that produced, I had probably the best two weeks in my career.

## 'Recalled'

"To begin, Mike England recalled me to the Welsh team and then came the offer from Swansea.

'I went out to play my first game for The Swans — against Charlton on the last day of the season — scored a goal and loved every minute. All the bits and pieces had come together!"

James has no hesitation about his blackest experience in a con-troversial career. . . being dropped by Mike Smith from the Wales side.

"For the first and only time in my career I felt there was nowhere to

"That is why I was so pleased when Mike England named me for the British Championship games. Now my football life has turned another circle. I'm in the picture again for Wales and I'm playing for the bas its sights set on a club that has its sights set on going all the way to the top."



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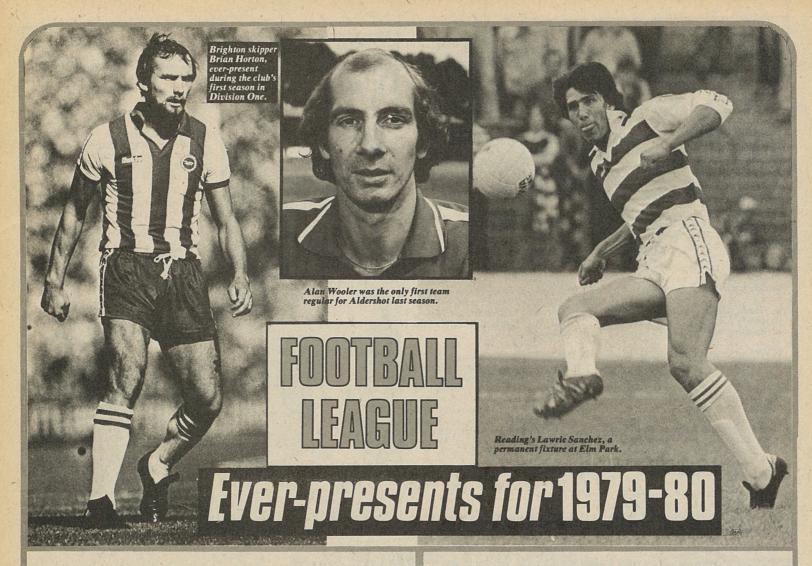
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## FIRST DIVISION

ARSENAL: ASTON VILLA: BOLTON:

**BRIGHTON:** 

C. PALACE: DERBY:

EVERTON:

MAN. UTD:

CAMBRIDGE:

NOTTS CO:

PRESTON:

ORIENT:

QPR:

MIDDLESBROUGH:

NOTTM FOREST:

IPSWICH:

**Brian Talbot** 

1 Gordon Cowans
2 Jim McDonagh, Mike Walsh
2 Brian Horton, Gary Williams
2 Jim Cannon, Paul Hinshelwood

Steve Buckley

John Bailey

Russell Osman

Kenny Dalglish, Phil Neal, Phil Thompson

LIVERPOOL: MAN. CITY:

Tommy Caton, Joe Corrigan
Gary Bailey, Martin Buchan, Steve Coppell, Jimmy Nicholl

2 David Armstrong, John Craggs 4 Garry Birtles, Larry Lloyd, John Robertson, Peter Shilton 1 Phil Boyer

SOUTHAMPTON:

2 Tony Godden, John Wile

## THIRD DIVISION

No. of

**BLACKBURN:** 

BRENTFORD:

CHESTERFIELD: COLCHESTER:

GILLINGHAM:

MA'NSFIELD: MIL'.WALL:

PLYMOUTH:

ALDERSHOT:

HUDDERSFIELD:

NORTHAMPTON: PETERBOROUGH:

BRADFORD:

HALIFAX: HEREFORD:

LINCOLN:

NEWPORT:

PORT VALE:

TRANMERE:

WIGAN:

YORK:

CARLISLE:

EXETER:

**GRIMSBY:** 

OXFORD:

READING

HULL:

BURY:

**Derek Fazackerley** 

Steve Phillips

John Forrest

**Trevor Swinburne** 

Sean O'Neill, Geoff Salmons, John Ridley

Steve Leslie, Mike Walker

John Hore

Ron Hillyard

Nigel Batch, Bob Mitchell, Joe Waters

Gordon Nisbet Terry Austin

John Jackson

**Gary Briggs** 

George Foster

2 Steve Death, Lawrie Sanchez

## SECOND DIVISION

ever-presents 1 Malcolm Webster

Alan Campbell

Les Berry Tony Gale

CARDIFF: CHARLTON: FULHAM: LEICESTER: Larry May, Mark Wallington, Alan Young LUTON:

Mal Donaghy, Paul Price, Brian Stein Gordon Mair

Ralph Coates, Mervyn Day, Bobby Fisher, Tommy Taylor Steve Elliott, Roy Tunks

**David McCreery** 

Jack Keay

SHREWSBURY: SUNDERLAND: Steve Whitworth

WATFORD: 2 Luther Blissett, Ray Train

## FOURTH DIVISION

ever-

Alan Wooler

Steve Smith Mick Kennedy

**Tommy Hughes** Malcolm Brown, Peter Hart, David Sutton

**David Carr** 

Steve Lowndes, Nigel Vaughan

Peter Denyer Colin Foster, Keith Waugh

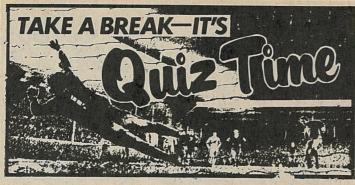
Ken Beech

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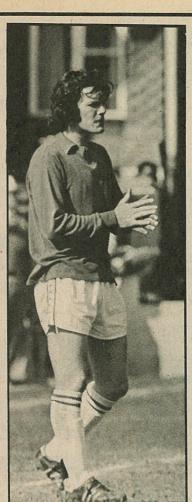
1 Ian McDonald

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- Queens Park Rangers' Rachid Harkouk was transferred recently for around £50,000 to Oldham Athletic, Notts County or Watford?
- 2. Dave Connor was sacked in the middle of June as manager of which Fourth Division club?
- 3. Steve Death (right) kept goal regularly for Rochdale, Rotherham or Reading last season?
- 4. Which Spanish club did Nottingham Forest's Trevor Francis travel to have a medical check up on his injury with a view to signing him for £1.3 million? They later decided not to.
- 5. Did Marco, Franco or Dino Tardelli score the goal for Italy that knocked England out of the European Championship Final in their Group Two match in Turin?
- 6. Clive Allen became the first British £1 million teenager when he left Q.P.R. and signed for Arsenal.

- Is he a brother or cousin of West Ham's Paul Allen?
- 7. Which clubs play at (a) Deepdale, (b) Edgeley Park, (c) Boghead Park and (d) Shawfield Stadium?
- 8. Mel Peiic, brother of former England defender Mike, was given a free transfer recently by Stoke City. Did he join Hull, Huddersfield or Hereford?
- 9. England failed to gain a place in the Third and Fourth Place play-off in the European Championship by one point. In their final game against Spain they won 2-1 with goals from Trevor Brooking and Tony Woodcock. Who produced the shot which Spanish 'keeper Arconada parried to allow Woodcock in to score the second?
- 10. Which two countries contested the Third and Fourth Place play-
- 11. Doug Somner finished last sea



- son as the top goalscorer in the Scottish Premier Division with 31 goals in all competitions. Which club did he play for during 1979-
- 12. Following their European Championship Final victory against Belgium in Rome, West Germany extended their unbeaten record under manager Jupp Derwall to 17, 18 or 19 games since he took over two years ago?
- 13. Who scored both German goals in their 2-1 victory in the Final?
- 14. Garry Shaw finished top scorer for which club last season?
- 15. If The Pilgrims entertained The Posh in a friendly which two clubs would be in opposition?
- 16. Rearrange the jumbled letters to find the name of a top inter-national striker and his country . . . YNKNE GLADSLHI (TSNAOCDL).

## **ANSWERS:**

1. Notts County. 2. Bury. 3. Reading, 4. Barcelona. 5. Marco. 6. Cousin. 7. (a) Preston, (b) Stockport, (c) Dumbarton, (d) Clyde. 8. Hereford. 9. Terry McDermott. 10. Italy and Czechoslovakia. 11. St Mirren. 12. 19. 13. Horst Hrubesch. 14. Aston Villa. 15. Plymouth Argyle against Peterborough United. 16. Kenny Dalglish United. 16. Kenny Dalglish (Scotland). (Scotland).



## COMPUTER PUZZLE IAN CALLAGHAN

Swansea City

Programme this veteran midfield player by plugging the gaps in his career.

Awarded the ..... in the Honours list.

Has played League football for ..... seasons.

Signed for Swansea on a free transfer from ..... in

September, 1978.

4. Made ...... England appearances between 1966-77.
5. Born in Liverpool ...... years ago.
6. Started as a ...... but now directs play from midfield.

Computer performance rating: 6. Superb; 5. Excellent; 4. Knowledgeable; 3. Good.

## **PUZZLE TIME** ANSWERS:

YOU NAME IT:

SADDLERS — WALSALL:
PILGRIMS — PLYMOUTH:
GRECIANS — EXETER:
CITIZENS — MAN. CITY:

VALIANTS — PORT VALE: PIRATES — BRISTOL 8. BLUEBIRDS — BRISTOL 8. BLUEBIRDS — CARDIFF: 9. IRONSIDES — NEWPORT:

Across: 1. Arsenal. 5. York. 7. Reading. 8. Hereford. 10. Stoke. 12. Leeds. 13. Hull. 14.

Albion. 15. Derby.
Down: 1. Aston Villa.
2. Exeter. 3. Leicester.
4. Bolton. 6. Ayr. 9.
Alloa. 11. Bury.

NAME THE TEAM:

SHOOT's Computer Puzzle answers:

5. Thirty-eight 6. Winger

3. Liverpool

1. MBE



Sunderland's European plan revealed in SHOOT's exclusive Nationwide survey.

Forest should beware next season, warns Liverpool star.

Brian Clough reject who made good. Brothers Terry and Kenny Hibbitt talk football.

England team group in vivid colour. Gordon Smith — Brighton's 'Trevor Brooking'.

Focus on Gary Gillespie, Coventry's elegant Scot.

Who was the leading marks market your slink leaf.

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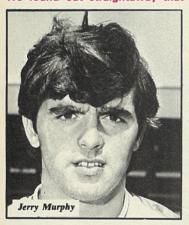
## EAGLES SET TO

WATCH Crystal Palace go next season! That's the forecast of midfield man Peter Nicholas who says: "I'll be very disappointed, along with everyone else at Selhurst Park, if we don't go close in at least one of the Cups or qualify for Europe.

The 1979-80 campaign was a "The 1979-80 campaign was a learning season for so many of us. After all, only Gerry Francis, Jim Cannon and John Burridge had played in the First Division before. "We started off thinking about going to places like Old Trafford, Anfield and Highbury and of the famous players we would be fac-

famous players we would be fac-ing. We ended up slightly upset that we had not gained more points than we did!

"We quickly overcame any feeling of being overawed. The greatest boost that we had for our confidence was that tremendous start when we were right at the top of the table in the early weeks. We found out straightaway that



we were as good as the opposing players we had been worried about.

"We didn't hold that top spot, of course, but we didn't go to pieces . . . as a great many people were expecting. We had bad games and difficult patches but we always came out of them. Nearly everything that went wrong, you

can put down to inexperience.
"That is behind us now — and that's why we reckon that we can go after the things that matter next season."

The rocketing progress of the young Palace players was reflected in the Welsh, English and Eire squads. Nicholas himself and striker lan Walsh are now auto-matic choices for Wales; Kenny Sansom is right to the forefront of Ron Greenwood's plans for England; Jerry Murphy is there to stay for Eire.

Behind the four current full internationals, the quick-breaking Vince Hilaire won caps for England Under-21 and England 'B' while Billy Gilbert and Mike Flanagan also gained England 'B' honours.

"I think there was this feeling among all of us that you hadn't really proved yourself until you had made the grade in the First Division. We believe that we've

SOAR



done that," says Nicholas.
"Even if we were left with that slight feeling that we could have done better, we certainly came out of a 42-match season in the First Division better than Brighton or Stoke, who came up with us.

'Not, of course, that we take anything for granted. A manager like Terry Venables never lets you stand still — but that's why we have come so far. He's brilliant at keeping you in top gear. On the pitch, he constantly changes tactics and approach; in training and

coaching, nothing is ever boring

Terry must be one of the most inventive managers in the game. There are always new ideas being tried out."

The record shows that young players respond enthusiastically to the Venables approach. Ian Walsh, slightly behind Nicholas in combroke through for both club and country in the second half of the season

First he won his Selhurst Park private battle against Dave Swindlehurst — the previous season's leading scorer who has since moved on to Derby County - and then his smash-and-grab raiding helped destroy England in that stunning 4-1 victory during the British Championship.

In just the same way, Murphy, Hilaire, Gilbert and Terry Fenwick acquired rapidly developing confi-dence and maturity until they matched the contribution of players like former England captain Gerry Francis and the consistent Jim Cannon.

## 'Quality'

"I learned a terrific amount from Gerry," admits Nicholas. "He has this special quality of being able to calm you down and get on with the job when the going is toughest.

"Gerry had a rough time with injuries but, by the end of the season, his fitness and form were

top quality."

Of all the sides - apart from Manchester United and Tottenham who were in a special category - that have left the Second Division in recent seasons, none have prospered more from home grown talent than Palace.

Those young Eagles, without exception, have adjusted to the tempo and skill of the First Division. Next season should see the dividends come thick and fast at Selhurst Park.

